

DC Gazette

VOL VIII NR 9

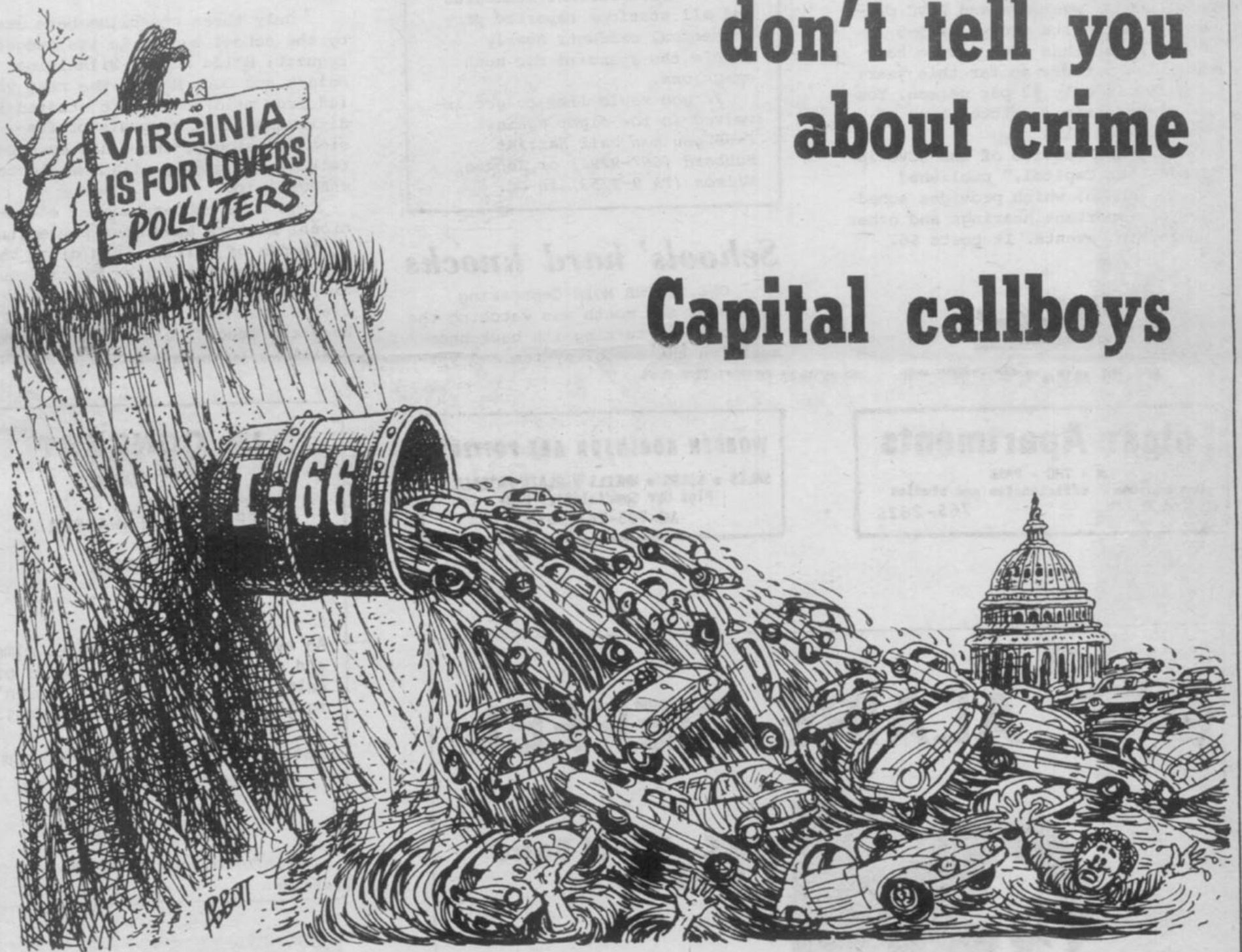
NOVEMBER 1977

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WHY NOTHING WORKS ANYMORE

What the Post and Star
don't tell you
about crime

Capital callboys



BAKKE CASE PREDICTED!

HOW TO FIGHT SHARKS!

HARD-UP BOYS' ADVENTURES

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DC EYE

Tourist friend

FIRST SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Our article on tourism (October) neglected to cite one of the few bright spots on the local tourist scene: the Public Citizen Visitors Center, located at 1200 15th St., NW (659-9053). PCVC operates on the premise that visitors might like to see some of living Washington as well as the monuments. They offer an escorted tour of Capitol Hill that lasts about three hours and includes visits to legislators' offices, committee hearings and/or the legislative chambers. Tours leave ten am weekdays and PCVC prefers to work with groups of 5-8 people. More than 1200 people have taken these tours so far this year.

The fee is only \$2 per person. You can also obtain a written tour of the Hill for \$1.

Another service of the PCVC is "Inside the Capitol," published twice a month, which provides schedules of important hearings and other interesting events. It costs \$6.



OUR COVER this month, drawn by Sam Abbott, dean of the freeway fighters, reminds us that the battle over I-66 goes on. Opponents of the highway are turning their struggle towards the question of air pollution and last month were preparing to seek an injunction against all highway construction in the area until air pollution levels are lowered. The Council of Governments has reported that in 1976 all but one of the area's eight air monitoring stations found carbon monoxide levels above current standards and all stations reported photochemical oxidants nearly double the standard for such emissions.

If you would like to get involved in the fight against I-66 you can call Harriet Hubbard (667-9291) or Johnie Wilson (TA 9-2753) in DC.

Schools' hard knocks

ONE OF THE MORE depressing scenes of the month was watching the city council turning its back once again on the school system and vot-

ing an attenuated budget that will cause still more problems for the already financially strapped public schools. Over the past seven years, the school system's share of the city budget has been declining. This decline has been at an even greater rate than the decline in enrollment, although it is a little strange for councilmembers to even raise the declining enrollment argument since the city is also declining in population without noticeable effect on budget deliberations.



Only three councilmembers stood by the school system in its budget request: Hilda Mason, Wilhelmina Rolark and Doug Moore. The rest varied from mild concern to studied indifference that suggests professional jealousy; there has even been talk of doing away with the elected school board.

To make matters worse, educational matters have been placed in the hands of William Spaulding, the least impressive member of the council, instead of the far more qualified Hilda Mason, who would like to head the education committee but is unwilling to do Mr. Tacker's bid-

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ELECT

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**D.C. School Board
Ward 2**

- parent
- attorney
- President, Ross P.T.A.

Vote November 8!

Paid for by "Alaire Rieffel for School Board", Wm. Van Kerrebroek, Treas., 1709 Q Street, NW 20009, 387-4163. A copy of our report is filed with the Director of Campaign Finance of the D.C. Bd. of Elections and Ethics.

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ding and so has been denied the opportunity that logic suggests. In the few months since Julius Hobson's death, Spaulding has turned the education committee from a friend of the schools into another obstacle in the path of public education.

The obvious remedy is public pressure, but parents are among the most poorly organized constituencies in the city. Although the cut in school textbooks and supplies was publicly known months ago, it was not until this fall's resumption of classes that the reality began to sink in with parents. There is also a tendency for parents to concentrate their complaints and actions on their children's schools rather than forming coalitions to fight common battles against the city government. Too slow to grasp what generalities will mean to their school, and too fragmented to make their unhappiness heard loudly enough, the parents (and their children) suffer while paid lobbyists for other causes gain the ear and attention of the councilmembers.

A number of school board members, including Betty Anne Kane, Barbara Simmons and Carol Schwartz worked with school administration officials to bring out large crowds of parents, teachers and adult education students to protest the council's tightening of the school budget noose. But it made little impact.



Which leaves us with this situation: the school system, which has been unable to provide textbooks or workbooks this year because of prior budgetary restraints, will have its belt tightened still further and an administration which is engaged in the first hopeful effort in years to improve public education will have not enough funds to do it with. Good programs will be cut, good schools will be closed and thousands of children will suffer.

In the past, most of the system's failures could be traced to the Presidential Building, but this is no longer the case. There is still room for considerable improvement in the school system, but now the blame must be shared by the mayor

LEAD: It's not all on the wall

THE NEWS that a surprising amount of lead has been found in children from Far Northwest raises new questions about the sources of lead poisoning. To date, lead paint has been considered the major culprit in lead poisoning — as much as 75% of the lead poisoning cases at Children's Hospitals has been traced to this source. But could it be that the lead paint is only a contributing factor? Could there be other significant sources, including the air and soil?

A reasonable hypothesis, yet there has been surprisingly little research done locally on the matter. DC has done only limited air monitoring for lead. Environmental and health officials appear to have left the question up to the federal Environmental Protection Agency, which will be proposing air standards for lead in early December.

Many parents, who were previously content that their children

and those city council members who refuse to take public education seriously.

ONE NEAR CERTAIN CASUALTY of the school budget problems will be a number of small schools that will be closed in the name of efficiency. If things run true to form, the schools will be closed without hard evidence that sizable sums will be saved and without consideration of the educational impact. The school system, council and press will go along because it will be an outward and visible sign of efficiency. If your child goes to a small school and you think it a good school, it is not too early to begin gathering your arguments. It's easy picking time and your school may be next.

were not wall-lickers, are now concerned that lead poisoning might be coming from less visible sources: like the heavily travelled street near where they live. An official at Children's Hospital reports a significant increase in lead poisoning tests for Northwest children.

The parents have cause for concern. The recent DC study found that one hundred and seven of 119 children who lived less than 100 feet from a road had levels between 40 and 59 micrograms per 100 milliliters of blood, while only one of 186 children who lived more than 200 feet from the street had similar levels.

A loner again naturally

IT IS SOMETIMES only hours after the capture of a suspect for a particularly grizzly murder, or ser-



VOTE
NOV. 8
1977

FOR COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION LEADING TO CONCILIATION AND EQUITABLE COMPROMISE TO RESOLVE CONFLICT.

- I have lived in DC area for 25 years.
- I chaired the Eaton PTA citywide liaison committee.
- I was a member of the board of directors, Cromwell Academy.
- My education and experience has been in business administration.
- I have served the city in other ways, dealing with land use, taxation, housing and ANCs.

Paid for by Gwen (Graham) Reiss, candidate. A copy of my report is filed with the Director of Campaign Finance, DC Bd. of Elections & Ethics.

**GWEN (GRAHAM)
REISS**

BOARD OF EDUCATION, WARD 3

DC GAZETTE

THE DC GAZETTE is published monthly except during the summer when it is published bimonthly. Our deadline is the second Tuesday of the month except for ads, which should be submitted by the third Tuesday of the month. The Gazette is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate and uses the services of Liberation News Service, Pacific News Service, College Press Service, HerSay News Service, and Community Press Features. The Gazette is available by mail for \$5 a year. Single copies are 50¢ if mailed and 25¢ at selected newsstands.

EDITOR: SAM SMITH
ARCHITECTURAL CRITIC: JOHN WIEB-ENSON

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1739 CONNECTICUT AVE NW (#2)
DUPONT CIRCLE DC 20009

232-5544



SCHWARTZ



RIEFFEL



SHAFFER-CORONA

OUR ENDORSEMENTS (CONT'D)

IN THE last issue we endorsed ANTON WOOD for school board at-large. Unfortunately, Wood failed to qualify with enough signatures. This leaves us with two vacant at-large seats and only four candidates. The most promising candidate is FRANK SHAFFER-CORONA who has been active with the Adams School Board, the Adams-Morgan Organization and the Council of Hispanic Community and Agencies. He chairs Latinos Unidos Para Votar, and he led the fight for bilingual voter registration and ballots. We believe he would make a good board member. We have no recommendation for the other vacancy.

There are two ward races in the Gazette's primary circulation area. We have previously endorsed CAROL SCHWARTZ in Ward Three. In Ward Two there are two candidates with considerable school experience. Alverta Mundlin is an education specialist who has been active in local PTAs. She has three children, two who graduated from DC schools and another in private school.

ALAIRE RIEFFEL has two children at Ross School. She is president of the Ross PTA and a member of the board of NPC #13. While Mundlin has been endorsed by Councilmember John Wilson, the Teacher's Union and the Central Labor Council, Rieffel has drawn endorsements from Councilmember Hilda Mason, school board members Betty Anne Kane, William Treanor and Conrad Smith. Especially in view of the threats of closing aimed at small schools, we feel the choice of RIEFFEL would probably be the best.

To review, our endorsements are:

FOR THE AT-LARGE SEATS: FRANK SHAFFER-CORONA

WARD TWO: ALIRE RIEFFEL

WARD THREE: CAROL SCHWARTZ

CHARTER AMENDMENTS: VOTE YES ON BOTH

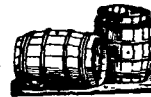
ies thereof, before the press has discovered the awful truth. The headline need only be pulled from the last case: "Suspect in Killings is a Loner."

Sure enough those were the words the Washington Star used to encapsulate Stuart Kreiner, seized in connection with the murder of three young girls in suburban Maryland.

We point this out only to remind you that there are still minorities that have not yet revolted and who are regularly maligned with impunity by the media and the public in general.

It is not, in any jurisdiction of which we are aware, a crime to be a loner nor does it indicate any predilection towards mass murder. Imagine, if you will, a headline reading, "Suspect in Killings is a Jew" or a "Woman" or a "Homosexual." The editor would be picketed, and hauled before the National News Council before dawn. But describe the suspect as a loner and everyone, from the editor to the reader, thinks they have explained the problem.

Every artist in the garret, scientist in the lab and member of a contemplative order should feel righteously indignant about such libels. But the loners will probably just have to learn to live with it. No one has figured out how to organize them to fight back.



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THE HARD-UP BOYS ADVENTURES

The case of the missing letters

THE BIZARRE HISTORY of the conventioncenter added another chapter last month with the revelation by Star writer Rudolph Pyatt that New York developer Donald J. Trump had written the city a proposal to build a center using largely private financing but had never received a reply.

Jerome Becker, an attorney representing the Trump Organization, told Pyatt that Trump had written several letters to the mayor over the past year and a half informing him that Trump was willing to build the center under a "revenue lease agreement." The Trump Organization also wrote to Tucker. No replies were received.

Tucker claims he has no record of such a letter. The mayor said the same thing, then searched the files and came up with the letters.

Said a spokesman for hizoner: "We have a record of the letters. but in our view they are repetitious." Apparently, the more you write the mayor the less chance you have of getting an answer.

Ben Gilbert, the local planning boss, had a different explanation: "We didn't answer them because we didn't have anything to say."

Said Becker: "We don't care if we're turned down. We would just like the courtesy of a reply."

To its credit, the Star, which strongly supports a center, gave major play to the story. The Post,

as usual, tried to ignore the matter. Part of this undoubtedly is due to the first principle of Post journalism — anything that the Star breaks isn't news unless someone dies in the process. But part fits into the longtime pattern of the Post withholding from its readers information that conflicts with its editorial views.

But no one elected the Post, so they have a First Amendment right to be schmucks. The mayor, on the other hand, has a deeper obligation to let the public know what is going on, especially if it could result in saving the city tens of millions of dollars. It is hard to avoid the impression that the mayor deliberately hid the Trump proposal from view because it would severely damage his case for a publicly financed center. Whether the Trump proposal was sound or not could not be determined until it had been publicly discussed and examined. But the mayor was not about to allow us to do that.

His first responsibility was to the welfare fathers of the Board of Trade, to whom the concept of

actually putting up any of their own money for something that might increase their profits is an anathema. And as Becker pointed out, "The invisible government of the District is the Board of Trade and no outsider is going to come in there and do a deal without them."

The Trump proposal coverup is but one more reason why the convention center deal reminds us — to borrow a metaphor from a senator of years ago — of a mackeral in the moonlight: it shines and it stinks.

Metroticks

YOU SEE, OUR FARECARD HAD only 35¢ on it, so we took it up to the nice big machine and tried to trade it in. On the left side, we slipped 5¢ into the slot. Nothing happened. We tried another machine. Same thing. We asked the nice man with the red cap and he explained that if we wanted 40¢ on our new card we would have to insert our old card, then insert 25¢ and tell the machine to deduct 20¢ from our quarter and it would give us a new card plus our change. We've heard of governmental make-work programs for individuals but this was our first run-in with one designed for a machine. . . . IF you will take a bus transfer when you enter the subway and another when you leave you'll have an official record to show your boss of how long you stayed underground. (Please turn to page 24)

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THE NEWS BEFORE IT HAPPENS

FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, the Gazette has stayed ahead of the times. . . We were the first paper to propose neighborhood councils here (1969), the first to expose the National Visitors Center boondoggle (1969), the first to propose bikeways (1968), the first to propose statehood (1970) and a sunshine law for DC (1971), and the first to expose massive inequities in the local property tax (1973).

Twice we have blown the whistle on the Convention Center scheme, revealing faulty economics and questionable dealings. We told our readers as far back as 1971 that Metro was heading for financial disaster. We helped to kill the urban development corporation modelled on the now-bankrupt New York UDC.

The Gazette has been the leading journalistic voice in the fight against freeways, real estate speculation and developer landgrabs.

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DC's war on pedestrians

PART II:

What could be done

IF DC's walkers finally revolt against the city's mistreatment of them, their manifesto is already waiting for them, produced by the urban planning students of George Washington University professor Sherwin Greene a year ago. Their report, "Feet First— A Study of the Pedestrian System in the District of Columbia," states the problem directly:

"Clearly the city's pedestrians have been handed a raw deal. They are forced to scurry along sidewalks that are often narrow, too crowded and frequently punctuated by driveways and alleys. They are made to cross streets at trackstar speeds — dodging cars all the way — because signalization has been timed to keep vehicular traffic moving with little thought to those who are walking. They are obliged to cross traffic-filled arterials to get to work, to school, to shop and to enjoy the city's cultural attractions, because these buildings have been planned with car access, and not pedestrian access, in mind. And to add insult to injury, law enforcement has been clearly on the side of the driver, not the pedestrian who is often slapped with tickets for jaywalking while the automobile is allowed to violate pedestrian rights with impunity."

While some of the students' product is predictable: better signing, fewer barriers etc., the report also contains some startling proposals for redesigning specific neighborhoods. One example is a series of four possible ways of dealing with the retail core illustrated on the next page.

The proposal reflects Greene's own contention that it is possible to improve life for the walker without hurting busi-

ness or fouling up vehicular flow. One of the assignments Greene gives his class is a two square mile map of a section of Chicago, a classic grid of streets. Schools and playgrounds are dotted through the area and Greene tells his students to come up with a new design which allows every child to walk to school with minimum contact with traffic, while providing more direct flow for cars. He claims that some designs allow every child to get to school without crossing a single street.

It's a little like one of those parlor tricks: move only four coins to make the triangle face the other way. You can't do it until you surrender your preconceptions and view the problem from an entirely new way.

- Like giving up the idea that sidewalks have to adjoin streets. They can also be between blocks.

- Like giving up the idea that closing streets hurts through traffic flow. As Greene points out, if you close one street at an intersection, you increase the capacity of the remaining one.

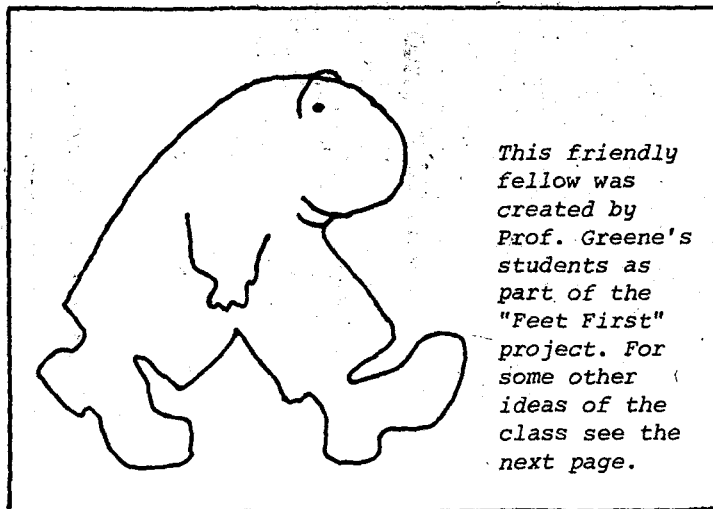
Greene and his students would like to see the city try out changing the way we divide up the city now — giving the wheels priority over most of it and restricting walkers to narrow spaces. And he is not worried about the tax or economic implications. The economic benefits of well-planned pedestrian malls appear to have been demonstrated, and one-third of the typical city is devoted to cars, hardly a major tax producer.

But to move towards such changes, we have to change our thinking about whom the city is for. Biased as I was towards the walker, it was not until Greene mentioned it that I thought of the curious fact that where pedestrians and cars meet, it is the walker who changes levels. It could be the other way, with cars forced to mount ramped crosswalks.

There are other curiosities, like why is it that cars move on soft asphalt while people walk on hard concrete?

But such heresies will have to be put on the back burner for a moment. We live in such an anti-walking city that when the government decided to build a traffic diverter diagonally across 44th & Harrison Sts, NW, the plans included a mountable curb for emergency vehicles, landscaping of Chinese junipers, but no way for walkers to take advantage of the partially closed intersection. And we live in a city where, when Greene came across a police patrol wagon parked in a cross-walk and he asked the wagon's officer what he learned about pedestrians in police school, he was told, "We learned to give pedestrians tickets when they jay-walk."

The "Feet First" street redesign pro-



This friendly fellow was created by Prof. Greene's students as part of the "Feet First" project. For some other ideas of the class see the next page.

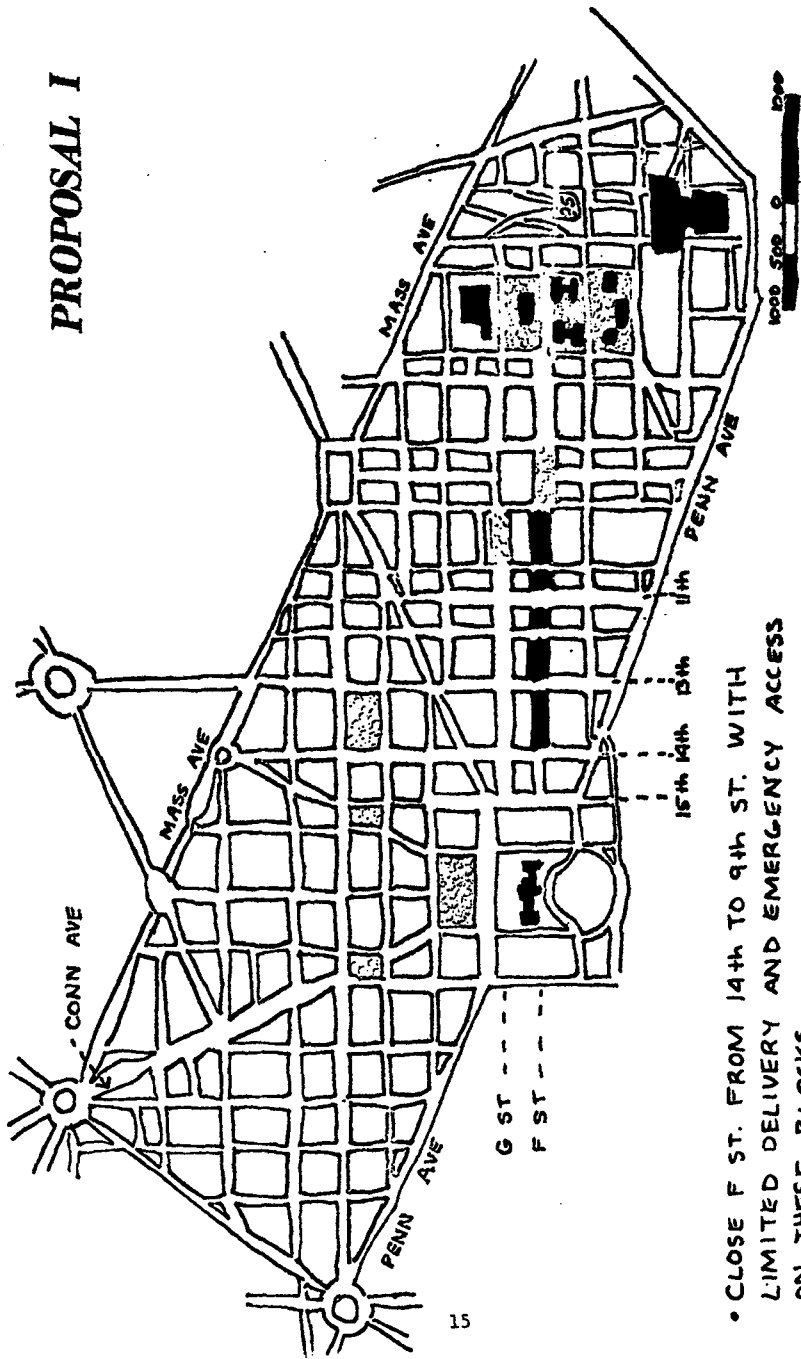
IT'S NOT A NEW PROBLEM

Reader Kenneth Todd sends us an editorial from the Washington Times of Sept. 28, 1935 which reads in part: "Found— The cause of Washington's traffic accidents and the thing responsible for the heavy toll of dead and injured on our streets. . . . THE CAUSE IS THAT REPREHENSIBLE PERSON, THE PEDESTRIAN. THE SOLUTION OFFERED IS TO ARREST THE PEDESTRIAN AND EITHER FINE HIM OR THROW HIM INTO JAIL. . . . If the traffic authorities are go-

ing to take an interest in the pedestrian there are several things they can do before they put the lowly walker in jail. ONE OF THESE IS TO ORDER THE POLICEMEN ON TRAFFIC DUTY TO GIVE A LITTLE CONSIDERATION TO THE RIGHTS OF THE WALKER. . . . AFTER THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE A FEW EFFORTS TO HELP THE PEDESTRIAN THEN WILL COME THE TIME TO THINK OF PENALIZING THEM."

FOUR WAYS TO MAKE DOWNTOWN WALKABLE

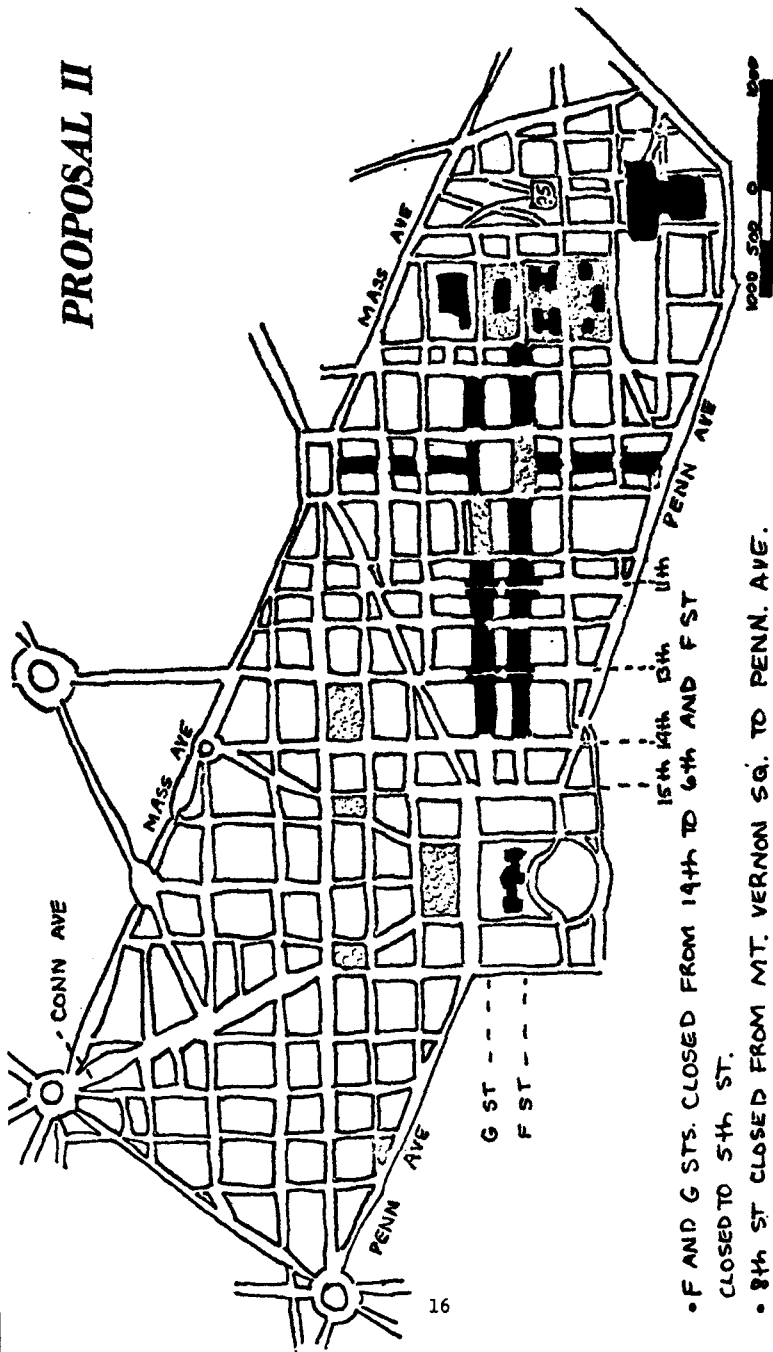
PROPOSAL I



- CLOSE F ST. FROM 14TH TO 9TH ST. WITH LIMITED DELIVERY AND EMERGENCY ACCESS ON THESE BLOCKS
- ALLOW NORTH-SOUTH TRAFFIC
- "DOWNTOWNER" MIDIBUS TO OPERATE ON MALL

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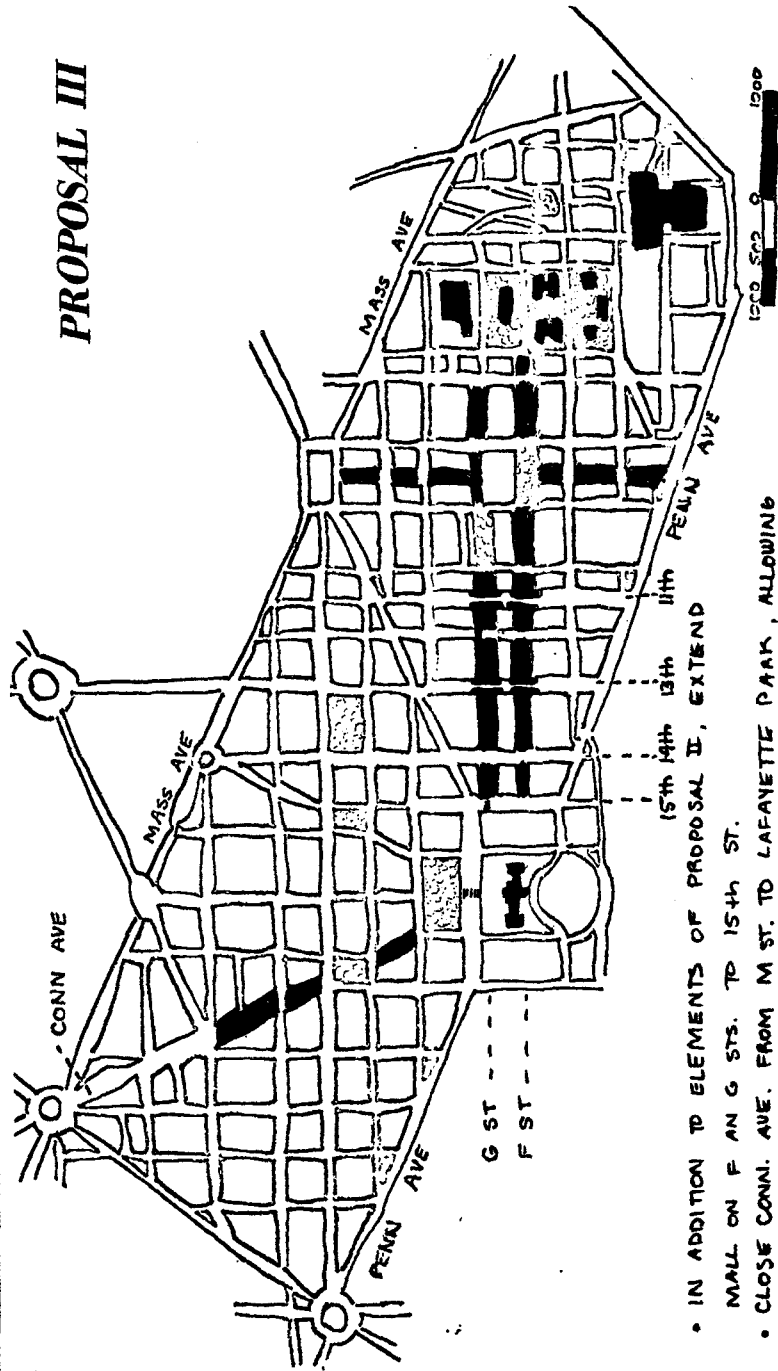
PROPOSAL II



- F AND G STS. CLOSED FROM 14TH TO 6TH AND F ST CLOSED TO 5TH ST.
- 8TH ST CLOSED FROM MT. VERNON SQ. TO PENN. AVE.
- CREATION OF GALLERIA ON G ST. AT 12TH ST.
- WIDENING OF PEDESTRIAN SPACE AT CORNERS ALONG 13TH AND 11TH STS. "HOUR GLASS EFFECT" FOR VEHICULAR CIRCULATION
- ALLOW NORTH-SOUTH TRAFFIC EXCEPT AT 12TH AND G STS.

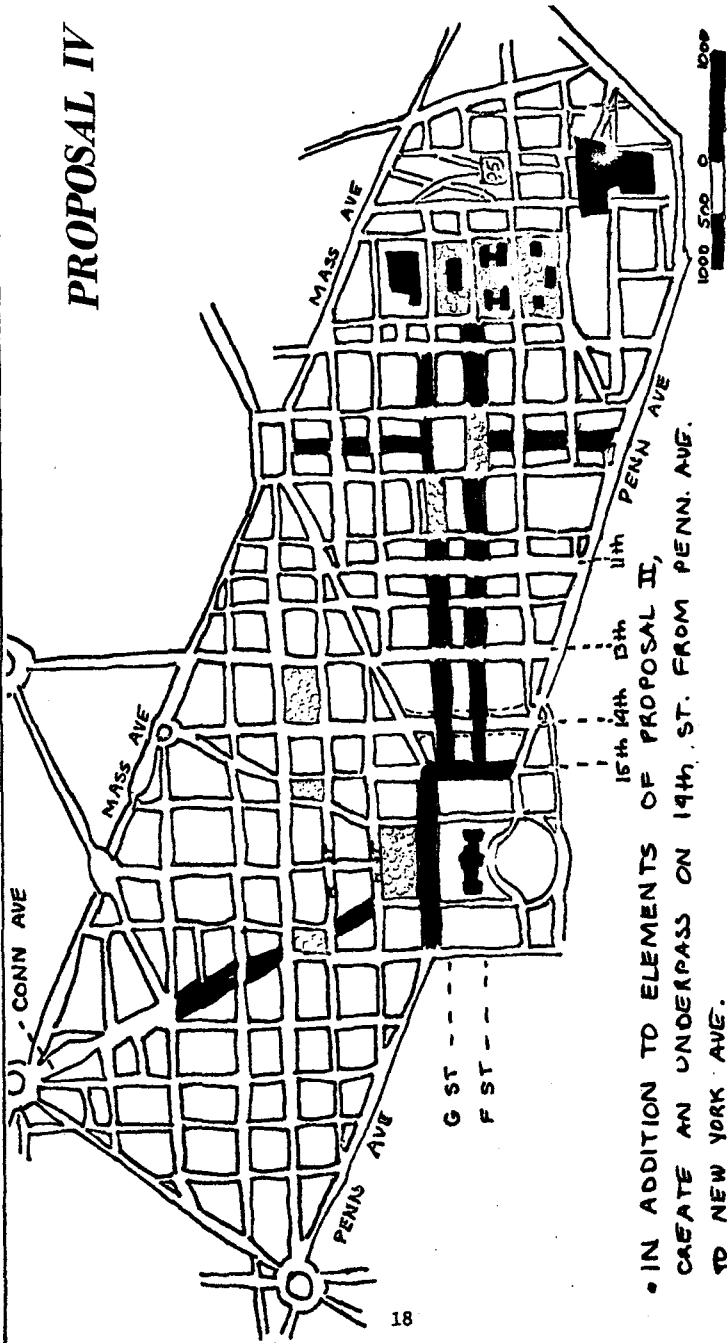
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PROPOSAL III



- IN ADDITION TO ELEMENTS OF PROPOSAL II, EXTEND MALL ON F AND G STS. TO 15TH ST.
- CLOSE CONN. AVE. FROM M ST. TO LAFAYETTE PARK, ALLOWING EAST-WEST TRAFFIC
- "ZEBRA" CROSSWALKS AND PEDESTRIAN CYCLE SIGNALIZATION MIDBLOCK ON PENN AVE IN FRONT OF WHITE HOUSE AND ON 15TH ST. TO G ST.

PROPOSAL IV



- IN ADDITION TO ELEMENTS OF PROPOSAL II, CREATE AN UNDERPASS ON 14TH ST. FROM PENN. AVE. TO NEW YORK AVE.
- CLOSE CONN AVE. FROM M ST. TO LAFAYETTE PARK, ALLOWING EAST-WEST TRAFFIC
- CLOSE PENN AVE FROM 17TH TO 15TH ST.
- CLOSE 15TH ST. FROM PENN AVE. TO NEW YORK AVE.
- INCREASE TRAFFIC FLOW ON 14TH ST. USING H AND K STS. AS EAST-WEST ARTERIALS FOR PENN. AVE. TRAFFIC WEST OF WHITE HOUSE

18

posals are exciting and important. But we may have to stop the city from making us crawl before we get them to let us walk. A more modest set of demands from the Walker's Rebellion might include the following:

- A change in the law to require that motorists yield/stop whenever a pedestrian steps off a curb.
- The provision of adequate zebra-striped crossings not only at corners but in mid-block locations.
- The education of the police in the protection of, rather than the harassment of, walkers.
- Elimination of "Walk-Don't Walk" signs except for permitting crossing in all directions. At present these signs tend to hinder rather than aid walkers as they limit their crossing time and when the 'Don't Walk' light flashes drivers seem to assume that they corner has been turned into a free fire zone, which they may enter with whatever speed or disregard for those in the street that they choose. Where such signals remain the walker's share of the signal cycle should be increased.
- Creation of walking paths separate from traffic such as using alleys, and requiring that walker paths be incorporated into building plans and zoning changes.

- Special attention to walking access at Metro stops.
- Encouragement of awnings and other covered protection of walkers in commercial areas, as well as the provision of adequate places to sit along the city's streets.

- Softer surfaces for pavements. At present cars drive on soft asphalt, people walk on hard cement.

Not a complete list by any means, but a start towards making the city a place that recognizes that most of us spend no small portion of our time on our feet and that it is more important for the economic and social health of the city that walkers be able to go straight ahead on green than that cars be able to turn right on red.

As Jane Jacobs said in the 1965 book, *Pedestrians in the City*: "To be sure, all immediate, direct, functional aids to city pedestrians compete with convenience for automobiles. This is one of many truths about cities which have been too long evaded, but it cannot be evaded. Nor is it so terrifying a truth, even from the point of view of the automobile, when we realize that automobiles themselves are victimized directly by their own redundancy and that

this redundancy feeds on the very pallatives conventionally intended to accommodate and relieve it." — SAM SMITH



NEIGHBORHOODS AND WALKERS

HOW can pedestrian circulation be improved without marring the identity of individual neighborhoods? Pedestrian problems encountered in neighborhoods include lack of uninterrupted pedestrian access from residences to neighborhood facilities, little or no signalization for pedestrians at intersections, division of neighborhoods by major arterials and lack of safe play space for children.

Two prototypical neighborhoods were chosen for study. Both are of medium density and are close to the central city. One will have a Metro stop, the other will not.

The Mt. Pleasant neighborhood consists primarily of turn-of-the-century houses and rowhouses on tree-lined streets. Its boundaries are clearly defined. Mt. Pleasant has an elementary school, public library and churches as well as a commercial center — Mt. Pleasant Street — that is underutilized. Like many D.C. neighborhoods, Mt. Pleasant is undergoing much private restoration and residential transition. The area will not have a Metro station.

Several alternatives were proposed to improve the pedestrian situation in Mt. Pleasant. All involved closing Mt. Pleasant Street and promoting vehicle-free access to it from as much of the neighborhood as possible. This can be accomplished by closing several east-west streets, and/or one or more north-south streets. These street closings would also facilitate access to the neighborhood's elementary school on Newton Street in the northern part of Mt. Pleasant.

Another strategy that could be adopted in Mt. Pleasant, especially if major street closings are not implemented, is to set aside play streets. This would involve closing several streets for supervised play during summer afternoons. Also suggested is the choking off of street entrances with wide sidewalks to discourage through traffic.

The Shaw neighborhood is a medium density residential area. Rhode Island Avenue — U.S. Route 1 — runs through the center of Shaw, essentially cutting it in half. Shaw will have a Metro stop on 7th Street north of Rhode Island Avenue.

The major pedestrian problem encountered in Shaw is the difficulty in crossing Rhode Island Avenue, a broad arterial on which many of the neighborhood's public facilities are located. Closing this street, and rerouting traffic elsewhere would be the best way to solve this problem. Seventh Street would also be a likely candidate for closing as it is the neighborhood's major commercial strip and contains several other major facilities. This would also provide access to the Metro stop.

Another way to improve the pedestrian environment in Shaw would be to close to traffic the alleys that run between many of the neighborhood's residential streets. In Shaw, unlike Mt. Pleasant, these alleys are not used to park cars, and would serve as a safe place for children to play.

— From the "Feet First" report

ARTERIALS AND WALKERS

ARTERIALS are the major conflict point between pedestrians and automobiles. They are a major focus of pedestrian activity because they contain most of the city's stores, schools, cultural institutions and entertainment facilities. Yet they also bear the major burden of carrying traffic through the city and herein lies the conflict.

In order to study the problems and potentials of the mixed-up arterials, two prototypical situations were chosen: Connecticut Avenue between Albemarle and Tilden Street and Georgia Avenue between Florida Avenue and the DC line.

These two sections have several problems in common: insufficient, inadequate pedestrian area; an illegible, unorganized signalization system; inconsistent use of curb-cuts; and a lack of direct access between major pedestrian generators.

However, the two arterials differ in the possibilities they offer for solution. On Connecticut, the traffic cannot be rerouted because there are no near-by arterials which could accept the extra traffic generated by such a plan. Thus any improvements must be mainly cosmetic changes along the arterial. These would include eliminating on-street parking, repairing and widening sidewalks and improving signalization. It would also include creation of chokers, which during rush hours would be for bus use only and at off-peak hours would be closed to traffic to widen pedestrian space.

Georgia Avenue offers other alternatives for improvement, since traffic can be rerouted to nearby arterials. The street could be closed permanently to through vehicular traffic, or more pragmatically, it could be closed temporarily each day when pedestrian use is at its peak. The proposed plan for Georgia Avenue also envisions a pedestrian overpass for Howard University, which is bisected by the arterial.

Circles and squares are a major factor in the overall design for the city of Washington, and have been since its conception by L'Enfant. These green spaces have been used for parks. But with the advent of the auto, and the need to provide the car with ample roadway, the circles and squares became less and less accessible to the people of the city-isolated by the barrier of heavily traveled traffic lanes.

Both circles and squares are characterized by several common problems. All have multi-lane traffic which totally surrounds the area, limited, uncoordinated, and confusing pedestrian crossing signalization, inadequate lighting within the area and litter-strewn grounds.

The overall prognosis for these areas is not healthy. Both vehicular and pedestrian circulation is unsafe. From the pedestrian point of view the message is "don't tread on me."

We have developed several alternatives in the hope of providing solutions to the problems present in these areas. Alternatives for circles include closing all streets to the circle and implementing free walk zones, closing designated portions of the circle and implementing free-walk zones in the area, splitting the circle so that traffic may flow through and providing two park areas instead of one and keeping the existing situation with the implementation of improved signalization.

— From the "FEET FIRST" report

THE PRESS AND BAIL

HOW THE POST AND STAR MISREPORT CRIME STORIES

G. T. Hunt

THE House has once again passed a bill to tighten the Bail Reform Act in the District.

It is unlikely the event was marked by popping champagne corks in the offices of Katharine Graham or Joe Allbritton, but it should have been. Few bills come before Congress with their way so well greased by Washington's two daily papers as this one did.

In the 1968 campaign Nixon denounced Washington as the "crime capital of the nation" and promised to do something about it. He did. In 1970 the District became the only place in the country with a preventive detention law, a law setting aside the presumption a person is innocent until proven guilty so those accused of dangerous crimes can be locked up without bail before they are tried. Although that particular law has not been used much, the District has the highest ratio of prisoners to population of any jurisdiction in the country. And the United States leads the world in that grim statistic.

Many feel that all has been done that can be done by jails and prisons, and that any further reduction of crime will have to come from steps for which there has been no political pressure, such as better police work, or reducing the poverty pockets that breed crime. But not Washington's two major papers. The *Post* and the *Star* have joined in what can only be called a crusade for more jailing.

The crusade dominated the Metro sections of both papers for most of 1976. It covered a broad front: judges, parole boards, and probation officers were castigated. But most of all the bail law was criticized. The papers began to find a bail angle in every crime story, sometimes at considerable sacrifice of the facts.

Take, for instance, the case of George Logan. Shortly after his arrest in early March the *Star* ran an editorial under the head "Bail-bond roulette": "March 31 is a date to watch for the Washington metropolitan area's Nervous Nellies about street crime. On that day, Mr. George B. Logan, alias George B. Jackson, is scheduled to appear in D.C. Superior Court for an extradition hearing." They explained that Logan, while talking to undercover agents posing as Mafia fences in the celebrated "Sting" operation, had bragged of a murder in suburban Prince Georges County. Indeed, he had offered the murder as prior professional experience when asking them for a job as a hit man. Prince Georges County, said the *Star*, was to ask for Logan's extradition on March 31 -- if Mr. Logan appears. The 'if' must be added, since Washingtonians read, last weekend, the disconcerting news that after Mr. Logan's arrest in the 'Sting' operation he was freed from custody on \$1,000 bond."

The editorial's dudgeon then proceeded in higher and higher cycles ("a certain whacky logic"; "disastrous in result"; "forced to play bail-bond roulette with the public safety"; "frightening to law-abiding citizens") till it collided with no less an angel of law and order than the Little Judge himself: "No one should profess to be shocked that Gov. George Wallace can recruit devoted followers with the charge that 'if you're mugged on the streets, the mugger will be out of jail before you're out of the hos-

pital.' In too many instances for comfort, in this city and others, that is literally true."

The *Star* "kept in close touch with the court" to find out whether Logan kept his appearance dates, Associate Editor Edwin M. Yoder, Jr. admits. But they didn't print the results: Logan appeared as required March 31. The hearing was adjourned to April 7 and again to April 9. Each time Logan showed up, and he was finally led off by a deputy sheriff from Prince Georges County, but still the *Star* didn't tell its readers.

The *Star* did report in November that Logan was acquitted of the murder, but with no mention of the bail angle that had once seemed so important. Nor did they mention that he got two to eight years for his less spectacular transactions with the "Sting" undercover men.

The *Post* is no more likely than the *Star* to let mere facts distract it from the hot trail of a bail story. On April 26, 1976, it ran a piece, "Outcry Grows Over Pretrial Release of Suspects," beginning with the horror story of a man arrested for a rape and burglary while on personal bond (his mere promise to return for trial) from two earlier burglaries. "Within 12 hours," the *Post* said, "he was back out on the street on personal bond" again. This may have been true but the main point of the article was a fantasy that has dominated this whole discussion: under the Bail Act, said the *Post*, "the seriousness of the crime could not be considered" unless formal pretrial detention were used, and "the only legal issue at the bond hearing was whether the defendant would flee from prosecution."

Apparently reading the law itself is beneath the journalistic dignity of All the Publisher's Men, or they would have seen that the law says personal release is not allowed if the judge finds "in the exercise of his discretion, that such a release will not reasonably assure the appearance of the person as required or the safety of any other person or the community (emphasis added)." The only limit on public safety is that it may not be used to justify a money bond -- a meaningless restriction, since a money bond would not add to public safety as truly dangerous defendants often have plenty of money to post. As the law now stands, the courts have such weapons as curfews, partial release with the defendant returning to custody at night, supervision by social workers, etc., to protect the public. Had the *Post* writer ever sat in arraignment court he would have heard frequent arguments about which defendants are dangerous, and would have seen many men held on that ground. So if this rapist and three-time burglar was released there had to be a reason other than the Bail Act.

Bail Act stories and editorials like these were a running feature in both papers throughout 1976, and the House committee considering changes in the law repeatedly spoke of the "public demand," meaning the newspapers' demands, that something be done. The basic trouble was that the newspapers never meshed with the facts, the actual workings of the law, so the demands were irrelevant, unrealistic and irresponsible.

One crude fact is that 91% of people released on personal bond do show up for trial. And about 70% of the people who appear for the first time before a Superior Court judge are never arrested again for anything. Every criminal lawyer can tell tales of persons

from out of town, or with no relatives or ties, who spend weeks in the jail for possessing marijuana, or soliciting decoy prostitutes (the vice squad's "Flat-foot Floozies"), or shoplifting, either to see themselves cleared in the end or to wind up pleading guilty just to get out. If memory serves, neither the *Post* nor the *Star* has ever printed such a story. Habeas corpus cannot be suspended, but the daily papers can suspend their interest in who has whose corpus where, and why.

Given these facts, there might conceivably be a few people who would still think the law should be tightened, but these were not the facts -- or factoids, as Norman Mailer would say -- available in Washington's papers. A few stories, like Logan's, were actively misleading. Others pushed the misimpression that release is automatic for anyone with ties in the community. Many stories lumped crimes committed while on bail -- pretrial release -- with crimes committed while on probation or parole, thereby creating a myth of a highly efficient police force with no difficulty catching criminals, but forced to turn them over to a court system made impotent by one simple problem: the Bail Act.

A similar problem is the failure to report sentences. Men are quite regularly sent away for life in D.C. Superior Court, usually for a third or fourth robbery or other crime of violence. These are seldom mentioned in the papers, probably because the actual sentencing takes place at the court's convenience, not at an announced time so a reporter could be there. This silence blunts the deterrent effect. Few people want to bring back public hangings, but it cannot be healthy to have a general public impression that no one is ever punished, when in fact many people are punished and punished heavily.

There is an optimistic and a pessimistic way to view the Bail Act stories. The optimist would say that Washington suffered nothing more than a well-done PR blitz by police and prosecutors who wanted a little spontaneous support for increased use of preventive detention -- US Attorney Earl J. Silbert testified before the House committee in June 1976 that his office had asked for preventive detention 24 times in the previous three months, as opposed to 60 times in the five years before that, and gave as his reason for the increase "the news media support and the public support." And, the optimist would go on, the press can't be expected to question such sources too critically; the American press has never been in the forefront of civil liberties, not for common criminals anyway; and if you don't like what they're saying, wait for the next swing of the pendulum.

So says the optimist. The pessimist would agree, but would go on to note that the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration with a 1975 budget of \$895 million, had transformed public safety from a low-budget local matter to a centralized, big money, federal matter. What will the country look like, the pessimist asks, if our news about the criminal courts over the next several years is largely influenced by agencies in pursuit of that kind of money? Are we developing a domestic analogue to the military-industrial complex?

Beyond this moderate pessimist stand George Gerbner and Larry Gross of the Annenberg School of Communications, who study television rather than print and are therefore permitted a certain amount

G.T. HUNT is a Washington attorney. A shorter version of this piece appeared originally in the *Columbia Journalism Review*.

of despair. They have identified in some of the public "A heightened sense of risk and insecurity. . . more likely to increase acquiescence to and dependence upon established authority, and to legitimize its use of force, than it is to threaten the social order through occasional non-legitimized imitations (of crime)." ("Living with Television: The Violence Profile," Spring 1976 Journal of Communications.) They were talking about the effects of TV violence on heavy viewers, but their study paints a frightening picture of society generally. Asked "During any given week, what are your chances of being involved in some type of violence? One in ten or one in a hundred?" Thirty-nine percent of light viewers and 52% of heavy viewers answer one in ten. So did 36% of regular newspaper readers who were light viewers. Asked what portion of the population is employed in law enforcement, one percent or five percent, 46% of light viewing regular news readers chose the wildly exaggerated figure. These figures probably suffer the imperfections of most surveys (e.g., how much of the error is due to respondents' trouble in estimating percents?) but Gerbner and Gross's point is more basic and more disturbing:

Fear is a universal emotion and easy to exploit. Symbolic violence may be the cheapest way to cultivate it effectively. Raw violence is, in comparison, risky and costly, resorted to when symbolic means fail. Ritualized displays of any violence (such as in crime and disaster news, as well as in mass-produced drama) may cultivate exaggerated assumptions about the extent of threat and danger in the world and lead to demands for protection.

Which pretty fairly describes what the Post and the Star think their readers want: protection, protection at all costs, and never mind distracting considerations, like the danger of wrong convictions or the nagging suspicion that locking everybody up may lead to more crime in the long run, simply because prisons deteriorate people. And never mind getting the facts straight.

As demonstrated, for instance by Terry Lindsay and Lawrence Coleman. In 1974 when they were 18 or thereabouts, both were sent, for up to 10 years and 7 years respectively, to the Youth Center. This is a special prison available under the Youth Corrections Act for criminals 17 to 23 for whom there is hope of rehabilitation. They can finish high school there, learn a trade, get counseling, etc.; it is, in short, the best we do by the way of rehabilitation. In fact, it claims a fairly low rate of recidivism, statistically speaking. But Lindsay and Coleman were the wrong part of the statistic. After he had been there over a year Lindsay was found ready for parole. Coleman was never paroled, but was moved to a halfway house to begin readjusting to life on the outside. Five days after Lindsay's parole and 24 days after Coleman's move to the halfway house they got together, got hold of a gun, and robbed, in his own church, Father Raymond Kemp, the former member of the DC School Board.

If the story were written to show the futility of the Youth Center's hopes for rehabilitation it should, of course, be balanced by some acknowledgment that their successes in fact outnumber the failures. But somehow the Star managed to wash out all such questions, along with most of the facts. Their regular reporter at the courthouse, Kenneth Walker, did a little Procrustean trimming and made the piece into a story about judges letting criminals loose to prey on society:

THIS TIME THE REVOLVING DOORS OF CRIME MAY STOP

The revolving door that has kept two young District men on the streets for years despite several armed robbery convictions may finally have stopped revolving.

Under a combination of Youth Act

ONE SHOT DEAL



THIS PHOTO, "Trust" by David Lee, won first place in the Smithsonian Resident Associate's Fourth Annual Photography Contest.

sentences and paroles, the two men, Terry Lindsay, 20, and Lawrence Coleman, 21, have managed to remain free for most of the last four years despite 11 armed robbery convictions between them.

Calculate as he would, the reader would not find this arithmetic explained anywhere in the story. (Why the last four years? Does the Star believe everyone should be locked up at 16, in case he is planning to become a robber at 18? Is there some angle here about the juvenile justice system, not mentioned anywhere in the story? Why 11 convictions? Walker lists 5, all before they were sent to the Youth Center.) Nor would he find any discussion of how these two very dangerous men had actually been handled. But he would come away with the distinct impression that the government was no more interested in protecting him from young thugs than from oil cartels or food additives. And he would want protection from those thugs mightily.

Pretrial detention appears to be only the first of a series of targets. Paroles have also been hit as being too soft. March 14, 1976, the Sunday Post ran a fairly thorough review of how and why the parole board operates, by Stephen Green. But the lead was: "Two of every three adult offenders in the District's prison system last year was freed by the D.C. parole board as soon as they became eligible for release." The head on the story was "D.C. Parole Rate of 66% Tops Area." Toward the bottom of the fifty-inch story, well onto the jump page, the careful reader would find that the D.C. rate of parole granted in 66% of cases at first eligibility topped the Vir-

ginia rate of 62% by only 4 percentage points, and the Maryland rate of about 50% by only that much more. He would learn, moreover, that first eligibility comes in Maryland and Virginia after only one quarter of the sentence, as opposed to one third in the District, so the figures are not comparable. More recently, US Attorney Silbert and Police Chief Maruice J. Cullinane have taken up cudgels for longer sentences for prostitutes — perhaps the oldest and most discredited solution for the world's oldest social problem.

All of this has had a tangible effect in the courts themselves. In May of 1976 the corrections director announced that the average daily population of the city's penal system was up to 3,245 from 2,799 for the year before. He had no doubt about the cause: he "pointed to charts showing that the jail population began to expand about the time of a widely publicized murder of an 86-year-old socialite in which the youthful suspects were released on bail. Another corrections officer. . . said: 'You're looking at the power of the press.'"

Gerbner and Gross, in their TV report, tend to speak of this emphasis on fear as having its roots in some need for social control. This dark, almost Marxist view may be natural for someone searching for an intelligence behind the output of the three networks. Washington newspapers leave a little more room for optimism; their faults may be grounded in nothing more sinister than apathy, passivity, and ignorance.

In May of this year the House Subcommittee on the Judiciary, of the D.C. Committee, again held hearings on the

Bail Act. But this time witnesses such as Bernice Just of the Pretrial Justice Program (American Friends Service Committee) were available. She told of prisoners held for months, only to be acquitted eventually, and suggested passing a law enforcing the constitutional promise of a speedy trial. Enough reality got into the record that Walter Fauntroy, for one, changed his mind and came out against amending the Bail Act and in favor of the speedy trial idea.

And the *Post* and the *Star* have calmed down a bit this year. The steady drum of bail stories has stopped, although nothing like a correction or an accurate analysis has followed.

Nevertheless on September 26 the House District Committee laid its amendment before the full House of Represen-

tatives, expecting the routine approval such technical matters are supposed to get. The bill did everything the most timorous could want: it increased from five days to ten the time a parole violator would be held (although the parole board has said it can move in five days as easily as ten); it extended the present 60-day deadline for trying a preventive detainee or giving him bail (although there have not been enough preventive detentions to give any idea how long it actually does take to bring them to trial) And the bill would have extended preventive detention to anyone, even with a clean record, accused of forcible rape.

That was not enough for the House. Someone proposed from the floor preventive detention for persons charged with first-time armed robbery. So this was added, 346 to 43, contrary to the wishes of the committee, and thereby illustrating the irreversibility of this pro-

cess. Once people start getting tough there really isn't any reason to stop till everybody has added his little bit. The criminal law is then an expression of institutional political needs, not a response to anti-social behavior.

Chief Judge Harold Greene of DC Superior Court told the House subcommittee that it is "a cruel and unfair deception of the people of the District of Columbia to lead them to believe that tinkering with the Bail Reform Act will produce miraculous results in reducing crime. It did not in 1970 (when preventive detention was added) and it will not now." Senator Eagleton's Senate District Committee has shown no interest in the game, so bicameralism will probably save the day. But as of now the deception is working.

Why nothing works anymore

Rasa Gustaitis

SAN FRANCISCO commuters are still complaining that their space-age, multi-million dollar Bay Area Rapid Transit is a malfunctioning boondoggle, if not downright dangerous.

And pedestrians in downtown Boston still look apprehensively skyward when passing the towering John Hancock Building, for fear those popping windows will one day hit a target.

Why is it that so many of our most sophisticated technological achievements continue to be plagued by near disasters? Why doesn't anything work anymore?

Eugene S. Ferguson, curator of the Hagley Museum in Greenville, Delaware, believes he has the answer. The problem, he says, is that the engineers who design today's technological behemoths no longer conceive them visually. The computer has been substituted for human vision.

Ferguson predicts that the problem will only get worse. "The more complex the machinery, the more often it will be out of order," he said.

"Something that the man in the street knows but most of our technicians don't is that much of machinery is out of order much of the time. The assumption of the engineer is that it will work."

In engineering schools, visual design courses which cultivate perception are being squeezed out by scientific analysis and computer mathematics, Ferguson has observed. Consequently, engineers can calculate but often can't see their designs in relation to their context.

This failure to see whole pictures leads to fiascos such as those that have afflicted the highly automated BART system, which has malfunctioned in alarming ways. Doors have opened while trains were moving. Trains have zoomed past stations without stopping, carrying anxious commuters to the end of the line. Electronic monitors have failed to detect a train on a track, threatening rear-end collisions.

The management finally resorted to a very old-fashioned safety measure: phoning ahead, station to station, to warn of on-coming trains.

BART "is a classic result of systems engineering uninformed by minds that can visualize the mundane things that can go wrong," Ferguson wrote in a recent issue of *Science Magazine*. "Absurd random failures that have plagued automatic control systems are not merely trivial aberrations; they are reflections of the chaos that results when design is assumed to be primarily a problem in mathematics."



Much creative thought in design is visual. Its language is in pictures that cannot easily be translated into words or equations.

"Pyramids, cathedrals and rockets exist not because of geometry, theory of structure or thermodynamics, but because they were first a picture — literally a vision — in the minds of those who built them," Ferguson argues.

Many of the great technological designers in history have also been artists. Leonardo da Vinci may be the best known among them, but in his time he was not alone. In Renaissance engineering, art — not science — was the guiding discipline, according to Ferguson.

Even into the 19th century, some of the great technological designers were also artists. Benjamin Henry Latrobe, a prominent consulting engineer and architect, was an accomplished watercolorist. Robert Fulton, known for his steamboat, and Samuel Morse, inventor of the electric telegraph, turned from careers in art to technology.

Using their intuitive sense of rightness and fitness, designers created the suspension bridge, the clock, the motorcycle. The notion that scientific information alone shaped them is "a bit of modern folklore," says Ferguson.

Yet in recent decades, as the scientific component of technology has expan-

ded, the trend has been away from non-verbal thinking and toward verbal and mathematical analysis. Nonverbal thought is now generally viewed as less rigorous and useful than cognitive reasoning.

"There may still be engineering graphics courses in some schools," says Ferguson, "but they are going out as the new breed comes in and the old dies out."

Engineering students used to be assigned exercises that required them to think in ways that could not be reduced to mathematics: design a container for an egg that will let it drop three stories without breaking; design a wheelchair that will go up stairs. They used to work a lot with three-dimensional models.

Now, says Ferguson, engineers learn the computer approach to drafting and designing. This requires them to convert mathematical descriptions to pictures in their minds. In the process, they can easily lose sight of the whole amid the scattered parts.

Ferguson began to understand the problem, he said, one snowy day when he boarded the modern high-speed Metroliner to New York only to find that all trains that day were being pulled by slow forty-year-old engines. The new engines were out of service because the designers of the sophisticated control gear had failed to consider that, during a snowstorm, the fan that sucks in air would also suck in snow.

Failure to consider such simple possibilities helps to explain why the John Hancock Building in Boston kept popping out windows until an expensive stabilizer was devised on top.

The current "systematic but intellectually impoverished engineering approach" to design is leading to a technology that is devoid of a "sense of fitness," says Ferguson. For instance, it is not fitting during this time of high unemployment, he argues, that automatic fare cards be used in transit systems instead of human ticket salespeople. It also is not reasonable, he says, "that a man who earns \$6 an hour on an assembly line should be forced to have someone come in to replace a part on his washing machine. That machine could be designed simply so he could fix it himself by changing a washer, but to do so would be bad corporate policy."

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GUIDE TO NUCLEAR POWER

Listed below are some major sources of information about nuclear power — books, national organizations, periodicals, and the grass-roots coalitions who are on the front lines of the nuclear battle:

BOOKS

Listed below are three categories of books. The first are those which we believe are especially helpful in explaining the nuclear energy situation. Second are books which tend to view the nuclear issue as part of a broader political and economic energy issue. Third are those which propose alternatives. Of course, there are many other fine books and this listing is not meant in any way to be inclusive.

Nuclear

Unacceptable Risk, by McKinley C. Olson (Bantam: 1976). A most readable review of issues involved in nuclear plant safety, health and economics. He also looks at the potential for sabotage and terrorism.

Menace of Atomic Energy, by Ralph Nader and John Abbotts (Norton: 1977). A timely summary, packed with detail and argument.

The Great American Bomb Machine, by Roger Rapoport (Dutton: 1971). This useful book helps to set the current controversy over power plants into a broader perspective, and relates the military to civilian nuclear establishment.

The Atomic Establishment, by H. Peter Metzger (Simon & Schuster: 1972). The politics behind the nuclear business, both military and civilian.

Nuclear Power: The Bargain We Can't Afford, by Rick Morgan (Environmental Action Foundation: 1977). Readable analysis of nuclear power and electric utilities.

The Poverty of Power, by Barry Commoner (Knopf: 1976). Excellent analysis of the entire energy crisis, with an especially good chapter that explains in simple clear language what nuclear power is, how the plants do and don't work, the politics and economics.

Politics and Economics

Poverty of Power. See above.

Control of Oil, by John Blair (Pantheon: 1976). For years Blair was the expert on economic concentration in Washington. Here he makes a powerful argument against the oil industry, which now dominates the uranium business. Packed with key data, analysis and argument.

The Seven Sisters: The Great Oil Companies and the World They Shaped, by Anthony Sampson (Bantam: 1975). A readable account of the international oil cartel, how it started, how it gradually broke down; the rise of OPEC.

The Last Play, by James Ridgeway (New American Library: 1973).

Describes how the energy industry was reorganized beginning in the middle 1960s with detailed information on coal, uranium, oil, natural gas. Contains sections on major companies and fuels that list interlocking directors, financial institution ties, and other business information.

Alternatives

Soft Energy Paths: Toward a Durable Peace, by Amory B. Lovins (Ballinger: 1977). A detailed, cogent argument for energy conservation and solar power. This is not a book simply about technology, but reaches to political and economic issues as well.

Energy for Survival, by Wilson Clark (Doubleday: 1974). Analysis often fairly technical of how energy is used, its development in the modern period. Excellent sections on solar alternatives.

Rays of Hope: The Transition to a Post-petroleum World, by Denis Hayes (Norton: 1977). A nuclear-powered world would be more centralized and authoritarian than one based on solar energy. He explores current options in wind, solar, water, biomass, and takes up the question of decentralization. A good timely primer on what can be done.

New Energy, by James Ridgeway and Bettina Conner (Beacon: 1975). Reviews the history of the energy industry, and concludes with a detailed plan for a decentralized system of energy production, processing and distribution.

RESOURCES

Persons interested in obtaining further information on nuclear energy issues or strategy should contact the following sources (prices may change):

Critical Mass Energy Project, Post Office Box 1538, Washington, D.C. 20013. Publish a monthly newspaper on the citizen movement to stop nuclear power. Annual subscription costs \$7.50 for individuals, \$37.50 for business-professional-institution. Write for a sample copy.

Center for Science in the Public Interest, 1757 S Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. Publish "People & Energy," a monthly newsletter on citizen activity on different energy issues.

Environmentalists For Full Employment, 1101 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. Publishes "Jobs & Energy," a pamphlet on nuclear power's effect on employment.

Environmental Action Foundation, Dupont Circle Building, Washington, D.C. 20036. Distribute "Countdown

To a Nuclear Moratorium" (\$2.00), "How to Challenge Your Local Electric Utility" (\$2.50), and "The Power Line," a monthly newsletter on electric utility issues and activism.

Friends of the Earth, 529 Commercial Street, San Francisco, California 94111. Distribute "Not Man Apart," an environmental newsletter including a section on nuclear energy; \$20 for FOE membership, \$10 for subscription. Also write for a list of books.

Natural Resources Defense Council, 2345 Yale Street, Palo Alto, California 94306. Publish a citizen's handbook on nuclear waste.

PIRG, P.O. Box 19312, Washington, D.C. 20036. Distributes free (with stamped, self-addressed envelope) the paper "Overview on Nuclear Issues" by Ralph Nader and John Abbotts.

RUCAG, Post Office Box 19312, Washington, D.C. 20036. Distributes a practical proposal on how state governments can facilitate the organization of residential utility consumers into an effective and well-staffed consumer protection group. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Task Force Against Nuclear Pollution, Inc., Post Office Box 1817, Washington, D.C. 20013. General information. Conducting a nationwide petition drive for a nuclear moratorium.

Union of Concerned Scientists, 1208 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138. Distribute general and technical information.

Office of Senator Gravel (D-Alaska), U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Has an extensive list of reprints on nuclear power problems and alternative energy sources.

Office of Senator Ribicoff (D-Conn), U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Reprints on security, safeguards, and international nuclear proliferation issues.

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Set forth below is a listing of major anti-nuclear groups in the U.S. We have talked to each group. The listing is by no means complete, and we plan to update and republish it on a periodic basis.
—Eds.

Abalone Alliance, c/o People Against Nuclear Power, 2160 Blake St., San Francisco, Ca. 94121. For information call (803) 543-0120 in San Luis Obispo. On August 6-8, 47 members of Abalone Alliance were arrested after occupying Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant site. The plant has been built but is not yet in operation because of an active earthquake fault two miles away. Pacific Gas & Electric, which owns the installation, now is requesting an interim license. Some 1,500 people participated in the demonstration. The first group of 13 people went to trial on trespassing charges and were found guilty. They were fined \$500 each, sent to jail for five days, and given 12-18 months probation. Other trials in this first case may be delayed because of demands for jury trials by some of those arrested, and because of probable requests for a change of venue.

There also have been demonstrations at San Onofre power plant site, at an experimental plant at Vallecitos, and in Berkeley at Lawrence Livermore radiation laboratory.

There are about 40 groups in Abalone. People arrested at Diablo Canyon ranged in age from 22-77.

The organization sponsors non-violent workshop training, meets once a month in different parts of the state. There are no officers and Abalone operates on the consensus basis. Future demonstrations are thought probable for Diablo Canyon.

Catfish Alliance, c/o Bill Garner, Rt. 4, Box 332, Scottsboro, Ala. 35768 (202) 574-5770. This is a very loosely organized, decentralized group of people scattered about in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. Representatives from both Carolinas have attended meetings and there have been contacts with anti-nuclear groups in Louisiana. A group meets every two or three months to compare notes and share plans. Catfish embraces the East Tennessee Energy Group, a revitalized anti-nuclear Sierra chapter at the University of Mississippi, and Georgians for Clean Energy.

Groups operate on their own, whether it be balloon launches, blood donations for leukemia victims on the anniversary of Karen Silkwood's death, or "citizen intervention" at the Barnwell nuclear reprocessing site. Garner talks about forming his friends into an Andrew Jackson brigade to back up the Palmetto Alliance at Barnwell in an anticipated Spring occupation.

Clamshell Alliance, 62 Congress St., NH 03801 (603) 431-5942. Decentralized, grass roots organization comprising 100-150 different anti-nuclear groups throughout the New England area. In addition to the landmark occupation of Seabrook last April 30, Clamshell occupied the site on two previous occasions — August 1 and August 22, 1976. In early November, Clamshell Alliance meets to decide its next series of actions.

Crabshell Alliance, PO Box 5395, Seattle, Washington 98105. Launched in May, 1977, Crabshell now consists of eight groups. So far, participants have been involved in educational work, putting out leaflets at the Satsop nuclear plant when it is open to the public. Participants testify before the Seattle City Council and demonstrate whenever pro-nuke Governor Dixie Lee Ray speaks. Emphasis is on non-violent direct action. About 150 people are involved so far.

Detroit Safe Energy Coalition, PO Box 1074, Detroit, Michigan 48231 (313) 872-4024. The coalition was begun in early 1977, and now consists of six affinity groups made up of some 50 people. A public utility bill burning is scheduled for Detroit in October. So far, activities have been mainly educational.

Eastern Federation, 317 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC (202) 547-6500 or 433 Orlando, State College, Pa., 16801 (814) 237-3900. The Eastern Federation, which now comprises about 300 different anti-nuclear organizations up and down the Atlantic Coast, was formed by members of the Environmental Coalition on Nuclear Power during the latter's fight against energy parks in Pennsylvania. At that time the idea was to bring together the Pennsylvania

Great Plains Alliance, 1104 Coats St., Columbia, Mo. 65201 (314) 443-0924. Great Plains includes groups from Kansas, Iowa and Missouri. Formed last January, it advocates active non-violent opposition to nuclear power. So far, the Alliance has been involved in a variety of educational activities, including a safe energy fair, balloon releases, and leafleting. It is now protesting a nuclear plant slated to be built 75 miles southwest of Kansas City.

The Alliance participated in a demonstration at a Bendix plant which makes nuclear weapons. They argue it should be converted to solar and wind technology.

LAND (League Against Nuclear Dangers), Rt. 1, Rudolph, Wisconsin, 54475 (505) 268-9557 or Rt. 6, Box 262, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, 54481. Organized more than four years ago, LAND played a major part in driving off a nuclear plant proposed by a consortia of Wisconsin utilities (Wisconsin Electric, Wisconsin Public Service Corp, and Wisconsin Power & Light). It is a grass-roots organization including farmers, students, professors, and housewives. One unique feature is that LAND developed its own citizen expertise on radiation monitoring, hazards to nuclear workers, etc. The organizers believe citizens must be able to find out, argue and act on their own,

cluding lifeline. In 1976 it got half a million signatures to put anti-nuclear and lifeline measures on the ballot. These proposals lost 3-1, with utilities spending an estimated \$2.2 million to knock them down. The group intervenes in various projects within the state and supports intervenors before the Ohio Power Siting Commission and at the NRC. It is not a direct action group, but concentrates on general education.

Oyster Shell Alliance, 7700 Cohn, New Orleans, La. 70018 (504) 861-1626. Oyster Shell is just getting under way. Basic effort is aimed at making local officials, community leaders, etc., aware of Louisiana Power & Light's progress in building a nuclear plant. News conferences, demonstrations, speeches, teach-ins are part of the program. Oyster Shell participants believe they helped push mayoral candidates into taking anti-nuclear positions.

Palmetto Alliance, 18 Bluff Rd., Columbia, SC. 29201 (803) 771-9999. Consisting of half a dozen groups, Palmetto has chapters throughout South Carolina and in Georgia and North Carolina. Members released balloons at power plant sites in August, and are engaged in a series of educational activities (speeches, workshops, etc.). The Columbia office opened in September. While the

evacuation plans. As required under law, a mock evacuation of the area was held, but turned out to be a fiasco. It became apparent to local elected officials that were there to be an accident in the Salem area, there would be no real possibility of getting out.

In Atlantic County, residents are fighting plans to build nuclear power plants a few miles off Atlantic City. Some 150 members of SEA Alliance turned out for a vigil at the Newark headquarters of Public Service Electric & Gas. In August, the Alliance participated in balloon releases throughout the state.

Trojan Decommissioning Alliance, 215 SE 9th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97214 (503) 231-0014. Made up of four or five different anti-nuclear groups, the main purpose of the Alliance is to shut down the Trojan nuclear power plant of the Portland General Electric Co. Eighty two people were arrested after 38 hours of occupation August 6. The Alliance hopes to stage a second occupation before they come to trial in late October or November. The date set for the second occupation is November 25. Training sessions in non-violent civil disobedience are held weekly. In addition to direct action, the Alliance produces leaflets, testifies at rate hearings, and at siting council hearings. It operates on a consensus basis; there are no officers.

UPSET (Upstate People for Safe Energy Technology), c/o Ellen Rocco, Rt. 1, Box 121, Richville, NY 13681 (315) 355-2512. UPSET was formed more than three years ago by residents of Saint Lawrence and Franklin Counties in upstate New York to fight the then-proposed construction of a 765 Kv line to haul electricity from Quebec to New York City. Since then, a state supreme court judge has ruled the line illegal, but PASNY (the state power authority) can go ahead with construction pending appeal. All along the proposed line, citizens have formed into groups which in turn hook into UPSET. With 500-600 members, UPSET includes farmers, small businessmen, teachers, Indians, long time residents and new homesteaders. It has fought the power line construction tooth and nail as intervenor, in canvasses, at educational displays at county fairs, on field days. Lectures, movies, pickets all have been used in the fight. Over the last year, the members have gone to direct action. During that period there have been 35 arrests, three for blocking bulldozers.

In recent months the situation has intensified. Activists — not connected with UPSET — made deep notches with power saws in poles supporting an existing 230 Kv line that runs parallel to the projected 765 right-of-way. PASNY promptly offered a bounty of \$2,500 for information leading to the arrest of the culprits. Construction machinery has been sabotaged. Sand and sugar were poured in machine gas tanks. One truck was hooked onto a second and used to pull the front end off the second truck, and so forth.

UPSET works with a Canadian group, PANDA (People Against Nuclear Development Anywhere), which has members along the Canadian side of the Saint Lawrence River.

GRASS ROOTS GROUPS

groups with those in New York and New Jersey. (Both of these states would have been affected by the proposed park scheme.) In addition, it was an effort to make rational and useful interchanges among the Washington, DC-based lobby groups and local organizations.

There's no formal structure to the Federation. The group meets every two or three months. Every member group operates on its own in its own style. In Washington, the Federation office is at the Environmental Policy Center, which helps the group with specialized information, prepares press packets, etc. The EPC lobbies on the federal level against nuclear facility siting proposals, for improved federal radiation standards, and so on.

Environmental Coalition on Nuclear Power, 433 Orlando, State College, Pa., 16801 (814) 237-3900. The Environmental Coalition began in 1969, fighting construction of reactors in Pennsylvania. Before that, citizen groups had opposed a scheme for using nuclear bombs to blow out underground storage basins in the state. The Coalition successfully fought off a proposed siting plan for a breeder. The group was a key factor in the fight against creating a Pennsylvania energy park. It has widely intervened in nuclear cases, and now has members that sit on the governor's energy council. Some 35 different local groups belong to the coalition; they come from New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, New York. Most, however, are in Pennsylvania.

without relying too heavily on scientific jibberish issued from Washington or the local utilities.

The group set up a debate with Dixie Lee Ray when she was Director of the Atomic Energy Commission. But Ray backed out.

LAND asked utilities to sign assurances of safety for the citizenry if the plant was built. Although the utilities were required under law to make such assurances, they backed off from signing a simple declaration in public. They leaflet, picket, and gathered more than 13,000 signatures for safe energy legislation in the seventh Congressional district.

Northern Sun Alliance, PO Box 8794 Minneapolis, Minn. 55408 (612) 870-9706. Northern Sun is made up of some 25 groups active in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Its members have taken part in balloon releases, and on July 4 picketed the site of Northern States Power's proposed Tyrone nuclear power plant in Wisconsin. Northern States now is attempting to complete final arrangements so that plant construction can begin. Farm land has been condemned, and funds to pay resident farmers placed in escrow. But the farmers won't leave their homes, and some of them have invited Northern Sun members to occupy their houses, in their battle to stave off condemnation.

Ohioans for Utility Reform, Box 1006, Columbus, Ohio 43201 (614) 461-0136. Ohioans for Utility Reform has half a dozen offices around the state. It opposes nuclear power and argues for revised rate structure, in-

cluding lifeline. Palmetto Alliance has not engaged in direct action yet, members suggest that it is a likely future course. A major aim of the group is to block operation of the Barnwell nuclear fuel reprocessing plant.

Potomac Alliance, 1746 Swan St. NW, Washington, DC, 20036 (202) 332-4250. There are about 50 people involved in the Potomac Alliance, which has offices at the Center for Science in the Public Interest. They're organized in affinity groups of half a dozen people or so each. Each affinity group sends representatives to different committees which then set policy. Members have followed West German Chancellor Schmidt during his recent Washington visit to protest the German-Brazil nuclear deal. They have been involved in balloon launches, prepared testimony in Virginia, and done educational work in Maryland. The group now is in the process of picketing a local nuclear plant for a demonstration.

SEA Alliance, c/o NJ Sane, 324 Bloomfield Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042 (201) 744-3263. There are about 15 groups in the SEA (Safe Energy Alternatives) Alliance, including the state PIRG, various environmental and community organizations and Sane. One of the local groups, Citizens United for Action, in Salem County, is fighting construction of three nuclear power plants on the Delaware River below Philadelphia. One power plant already has been built in the area. Focus here is on failure of the industry and government officials to devise adequate

letters, comment & alarms

Pedestrians and the city

SECTION 52(c) of the D.C. Highway Code reads:

"Between adjacent intersections controlled by traffic control signal devices or by police officers, pedestrians shall not cross the roadway at any place except in a crosswalk."

Crossing a street outside a crosswalk is allowed between two unsignalized intersections or between a signalized and an unsignalized intersection.

In consequence, a pedestrian who crosses Wisconsin Avenue 50 yards north of Newark Street is a law-abiding citizen, but he who crosses 50 yards south is a vicious criminal.

Traffic engineers are much addicted to scientific research in the field of psychology. Their statistics show that all those pedestrians who cross between two traffic lights are of more evil disposition and lower intelligence than the others. That's why the law was made.

K. TODD

I HARDLY DARED hope that the "War on Pedestrians" headline I saw in the Gazette vending boxes meant what I thought it did. When I bought a copy and unfolded it to reveal the "RUN LIKE HELL" light, though, I knew we had an ally. Mom and I have been fighting the good fight (or losing battle, as it has more often seemed) for years. One technique Mom uses for expressing a variety of opinions is to have me make "message" buttons to her specifications. A couple of years ago, when we figured that the newly discovered energy crisis should have placed a premium on walkers, Mom began wearing a custom-made button reading, "BE KIND TO PEDESTRIANS - YOU MAY SOON BE ONE YOURSELF!" For her birthday that year I had a hundred of them printed up commercially so she could give them out as she deemed fit to Congressmen, journalists, bank presidents and other harried pedestrians. (Bank presidents? Yep - at her bank in suburban DC, she could not get service at the drive-in window if she walked up to it on the sidewalk that passed underneath. She thus had much more limited banking hours than motorists. The suggestion made in response to her protests was that she get a ride with a neighbor or take a taxi!) I decided that you had to be one of the select few people with a specimen of this limited edition button. Although I had been completely unfamiliar with the DC Gazette, you've won me over. My only reservation concerns the operation of your vending boxes. On my first attempt to see your publication I succeeded only in losing a quarter to a box around 15th & M.

Lately Mom has been concerned that DC would escalate its war on pedestrians by joining the rest of the country in the switch to right-turn-on-red. My technique for aiding her in her current campaign was doggerel rhyme:

A creature that is somehow missed
On each endangered species list -
The poor Pedestrian - will find
Most legislators weight behind
Right-turn-on-red; they think, "Safe bet -
We're on the side of angels;" yet
Pedestrians decline, with thanks
The chance to join those lofty ranks.
Keep up your noble work!

BABS KLEIN

Thanks for the button and your errant quarter is on the way home. Our vending machines are one of the Gazette's few concessions to modern technology, and while they work pretty well we occasionally have problems. We have found washers, chewing gum and Peruvian pennies jamming up the slots. A few hints: even the big papers' racks (or bird cages as they're known) sometimes refuse to respond to the first yank. Jiggle the handle a few times and then pull again. If that doesn't work, you'll find a coin return button located under the rack. If that doesn't work, call us at 232-5544, give your name and number and the location of the faulty rack. We will check it out, return your quarter and send you a free paper to boot. - Ed.

Metro and the Gazette

AS I READ the lead article on "D.C.'s War Against Pedestrians" (every word of which I applauded) and the wonderful opening paragraphs of your "DC Eye" (particularly the item dealing with the horrible inequities perpetrated by the all-powerful utility companies), I wondered how I had ever come to let my subscription to the Gazette lapse.

Then, I came to your item about the Massachusetts Transit System, with its mildly snide comparisons to our beleaguered Metro system - and immediately I remembered why I had quit the Gazette a couple of years back. It was because of your angry, non-holds-barred opposition (editorially) to the new Metro subway for D.C. I'm from Boston and spent most of the first half of my life there. I've always loved the Boston subway and as an ardent advocate of mass transportation (miserably frustrated by DC bus travel) I have been enthralled by our Metro rail system. I find its "bugs" few and far between and more than offset by its speed, efficiency and glitter. Boston's subway system is more than half a century old; Metro's been running for less than a year.

However, as you can see, I'm resubscribing. I hope I shan't regret it!

B.L.M.

SEND YOUR LETTERS ABOUT ANYTHING TO
THE DC GAZETTE, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW
DC 20009. Please keep them short.

Ward III School Board candidate writes

ONE had but to have lived in other countries to recognize that it was true - that America was the world's last, best hope. It was an exciting, dynamic, vibrant place, with public education based on the belief of equality. There was hope for any child. The son of an immigrant I once met in New York City was taught English as he learned in an inner-city school 60 years ago and became a Rhodes Scholar; children of immigrants in rural one- and two-room schoolhouses were taught the basics of an adequate education, enabling them to function in society. That is the way it was. But, gradually, over the years education has become the domain of the bureaucrat.

The way things are now, taxpayers are angry because they see funds unwisely used - test scores going down. Sensitive observers, Kozol, Holt, Silberman, Hentoff, et. al., write books describing the fate of students. We sit at meetings, symposia, etc., listening to the endless papers served up in educational jargon, the rhetoric of those who earn large salaries in professions related to education, but who cannot bring about a basic education. We listen to their opinions and percentages, which only serve to rehash and reinforce the fact that the educational systems are failing both students and country. We ask ourselves how come teachers used to be able to teach without all this expensive nonsense.

Drastic correction is now imperative: the kind of correction bringing more funds to classroom level must be achieved because, in the words of a famous statesman, "Upon the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends." The time has come to elect school board members who are capable of going beyond telling us what is wrong; who are determined to break down the unwieldy, non-productive school bureaucracies. We can no longer afford to elect school board members who deal in band-aids as each crisis arises if we are to get back to basics, accommodate the gifted and the handicapped in team-teaching, multi-grade level, etc., while still providing enrichment programs such as art, music and languages and yet hold down the cost of education. We need board members who utilize their power to fire anyone for incompetency without permitting conflict to develop into confrontation (thusly not making martyrs out of anyone); who will set time limits on policy decisions; who will lobby for funds once they can justifiably say why more funds are needed - and who will insist on justification. Superintendent Reed needs such board members.

In breaking down the bureaucracy, decentralization - which we do not have, we have regionalization - must be accomplished, bringing power of decision back to school councils, headed by principals, at local school level. Regionalization was described as, "flattening out the hierarchy." Well, test scores have gone down even from last year - we're flat on our backs on the ground. All past procedures will have to be declared obsolete, with overlapping functions eliminated. Tinkering here and there will not do. We cannot allow the regional offices to develop into ever-growing decision-making bureaucracies within the parent bureaucracy.

Under decentralization, principals must be held responsible for discipline and test scores. They must, therefore - along with each school council - pick their teaching teams, held in place from year to year, and buy their own books and supplies. This is the justification I presented to Judge Wright in order that he would reconsider his decision to deny the Board's request. The board had asked him to vacate his decree formula without giving any justification for the request. Happily the judge reconsidered and teachers will not be shifted this fall. Any principal who cannot follow and provide for a set curriculum, while maintaining environmental conditions suitable to different groups of students, attaining learning up to test score level; who cannot assemble, and make decisions with, a school council of parents and teacher representatives; who cannot produce a school budget, is in the wrong profession - as are teachers who cannot teach to grade level. There is no shortage of replacements in these professions. Teachers want status quo, whereby they are protected by Civil Service regulations - never mind that this sometimes means letting competent teachers go under cut-backs while incompetent teachers are protected. This is going to have to change. The Teachers' Union promised me four years ago they would retrain teachers. A time limit has to be set by the board on all policy, especially bringing students to grade level.

I am asked why I continue trying to help - why I run again for the board after losing to a different incumbent 4 years ago. It is truly because if I am to look into the hopeless faces of the uneducated young in future years I, myself, want to know I did all I could to save them from hopelessness, and to ensure that this country remains, for posterity, the world's last, best hope.

GWEN GRAHM REISS
CANDIDATE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, WARD 3

Rent control plan

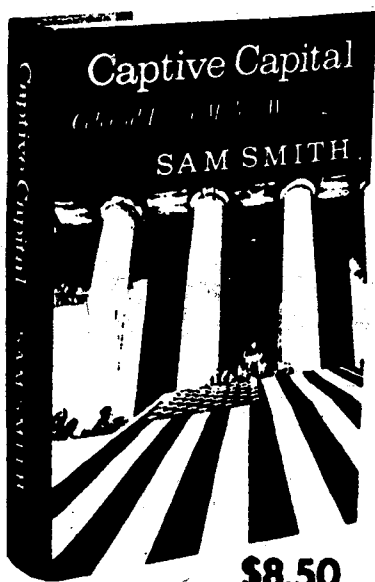
I VERY MUCH LIKED your article, "Controlling Housing Instead of Just Rents" (August-September).

The rent control bill below, more than just a rent control bill, fits very nicely with your ideas:

There shall be no rent increases. All rents are to be rolled back 10%, effective immediately.

Under this law:

- 1) Landlords are prohibited from converting any unit or group of units to condominiums;
- 2) Landlords are required to maintain rental units in good condition. Full compliance with the housing code will be only an absolute minimum;



\$8.50

Captive Capital

*Colonial Life
in Modern Washington*

Here's what people have been saying about Gazette editor Sam Smith's book about local Washington:

Could be an excellent gift for any friend just moving to town. Or any friend who has managed to live here for sometime without learning anything about Washington. . . . Sam Smith's is one of the few efforts I have seen that manages to deal with black people and white people without insulting either." - WILLIAM RASPBERRY, WASHINGTON POST

It is absolutely 'must' reading for all who are interested in this city's history, its political or private life - JAMES TINNEY, WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN

Smith's book is a joy to read - ROBERT CASSIDY, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

METROPOLITAN AREA TENNIS AND GOLF GUIDE, 1977 EDITION

Ellen Lux, editor

Whether you are a die-hard sports fan or you need to exercise to take off excess tonage, the 1977 MATGG has all you need to know on activities and facilities. In addition to golf and tennis, there is also info on racquetball, ice skating, bicycling, basketball, etc. There are also feature articles on the Bullets, Caps, Redskins, Forest Hills, the Masters Tournament, and much more.

141 pages, 6 x 9, \$2.00 perfectb'nd

CAPITAL FEASTS: The Menu Guide to Washington Area Restaurants

Janet Staihar and Richard Barnes

1977 guide to the menus of the top restaurants in the area. With notes on open hours, decor, house specials and other features.

128 pages, 8 x 8 1/2, \$4.50 perfectb'nd

COUNTRY INNS, by Lewis Perdue.

More than 70 rustic spots in nearby Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia are evaluated for food, ambience, lodging availability, and service. Includes historic background along with details on where to call and how to get there. 192 pages, \$4.95.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL GUIDE. Over 200 independent schools in the area described; including tuition information, curriculum, requirements. \$3.95

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GHOSTS: WASHINGTON'S MOST FAMOUS GHOST STORIES. Long before Watergate there were strange things happening in Washington. The sinister spectre of Francis Scott Key, the ghosts of the Pension Building and lots more. Plenty of old photos. \$3.95

TOUCHING DC: A fine photo to book about Washington for children. \$4.20

WASHINGTON STAR GARDEN BOOK. A long time local classic. Lots of information keyed to local conditions. \$3.95

SUCCESSFUL GARDENING IN THE GREATER WASHINGTON AREA. We're not into gardening but we're told that this book is an excellent companion book to the Star guide. Prepared by the Men's Gardening Club of Montgomery County. \$2.00

WALKING TOURS OF WASHINGTON. We think this is one of the best of the walking guides and it only costs \$1.50.

THE OUTDOOR SCULPTURE OF WASHINGTON DC: This Smithsonian Press book tells you all about the sculpture of DC with over 400 illustrations. \$8.95

ZOO BOOK: The cover photo of a Bengal tiger resting at the edge of a pond provides a striking welcome to this photo-filled book on what's in the National Zoo and how it's cared for. \$5.00

GREATER WASHINGTON AREA BICYCLE ATLAS: This guide is now in its second edition and is a must for anyone who likes to take bike trips in the area. \$3.50

ALONG THE CANAL

CANAL BOAT CHILDREN: A nicely illustrated paperback describing the life of children who worked and lived on the C&O and other canals. \$3.

LIFE ON THE C&O CANAL: An illustrated, first person account of life on the C&O Canal in 1859. \$2.50

TOWPATH GUIDE TO THE C&O CANAL: Georgetown to Seneca. \$3.

C&O CANAL OLD PICTURE ALBUM: \$4.95

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Where to Go and What to Know in the Metropolitan Area



MARION EIN AND ALICE SHABECOFF

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350 pages, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, \$4.50 perfectb'nd

LUCE
PUBLISHING

3) Landlords are prohibited from decreasing the number of rental units in a building;

4) Landlords are prohibited from taking any units off the rental market except by legally turning over to the tenants collectively a building containing rental units; and

5) Landlords are prohibited from raising rents as a result of supposed "rehabilitation".

Penalties: for each violation of the above provisions, a landlord shall be subject to a mandatory term of six months in D.C. jail for each rental unit involved.

If, one year after the initial filing of a tenant complaint under this law, the D.C. Court system has not enforced a provision of this law, the landlord of the property concerned will lose all claim to ownership of the property involved. The property concerned will then become the collective property of the people who were the tenants at the time the initial complaint was filed.

ROBERT W. LEISINGER

Clarke jogs commissioners

RECENTLY at an ANC town meeting in my ward, I asked a commissioner if any action were to be taken upon a couple of important bills in the council, and she responded in part that I knew they supported those measures. No vote had been taken by the ANC nor any message of support communicated. It was felt sufficient that I, as the ward councilmember, felt intrinsically that the members of that commission supported the measures.

Seldom does a politician criticize a large and powerful bloc of voters for anything but I feel compelled to tell of my disappointment over the silence of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions and commissioners on the matter of Bill 2-100 which is designed to cause different tax rates for residential and commercial property — similar to what was in existence in 1974. This would cause a shifting of some of the burden to commercial properties and a lessening of the burden for residential properties. Since the time of my last letter to Commissioners on this matter, I know of only one correspondence from a commissioner to a councilmember on the matter — on either side of the question.

On the other hand, the city's business community has organized to carry forth one of its hardest lobbying efforts to date to defeat the measure. Because of this, I and other councilmembers have received many more letters in opposition to the measure than in support of it. Yet, as that commissioner said, I know the people support the bill.

None of us, commissioners, councilmembers or citizens, can adequately respond to any matter by knee jerk reaction at the time of some crunch. Come February when Group A properties receive two years of increase and Group B properties are again increased, we are going to face an even greater tax assessment crisis than we did this year. Many of the increases in the Mayor's FY'79 budget were premised upon an expectation of much higher property taxes. But February may be too late to deal with the matter.

When recently I took another matter to the ANCs and asked for advice, very few responded. We then did a time-consuming and expensive

poll and found that over 85% of the commissioners had a position on the issue but had not expressed it. A clear majority was on one side of the issue, but, when it came before the council, the vote went the other way. It may well not have happened had the commissions and commissioners communicated their positions to the councilmembers.

DAVID CLARKE

COUNCILMEMBER, WARD ONE

(The letter above is excerpted from one sent to Neighborhood Commissioners.)

APPLE PIE

OVER one hundred ninth graders in one of Hawaii's public schools were asked to write down the entire Pledge of Allegiance and not one could do it correctly. Some of the students, for instances, said that the United States was one nation "under guard," and that it was "in the visible." In other papers, the phrase "for which it stands" appeared as "of the richest stand" or "for Richard stand."

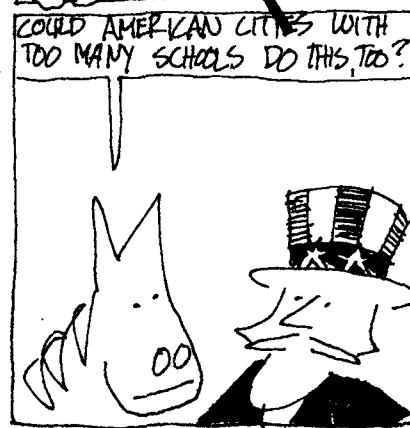
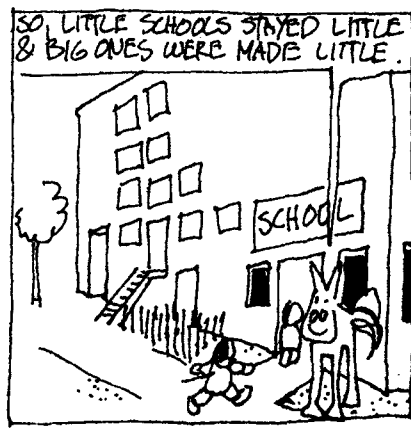
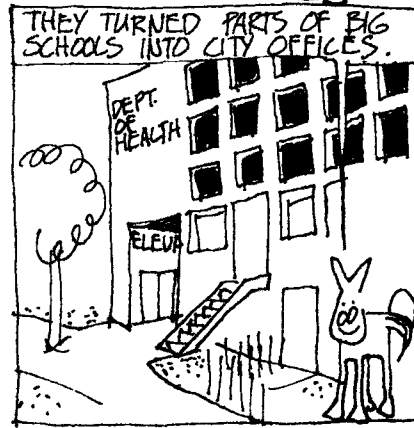
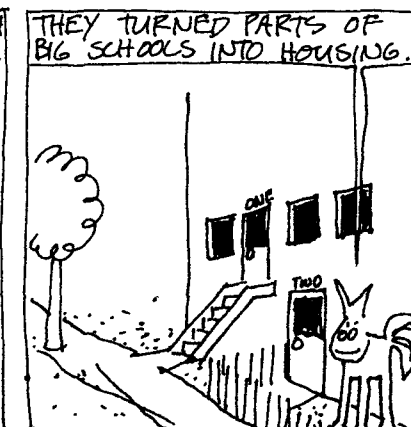
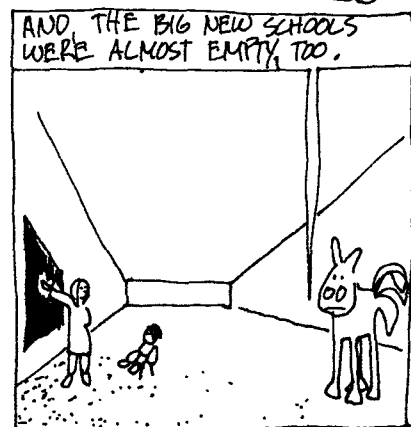
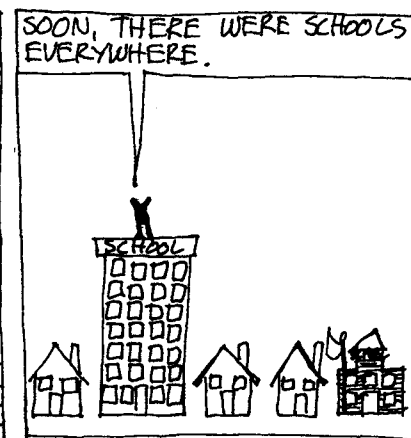
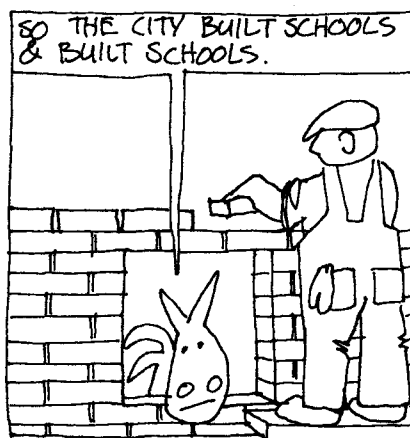
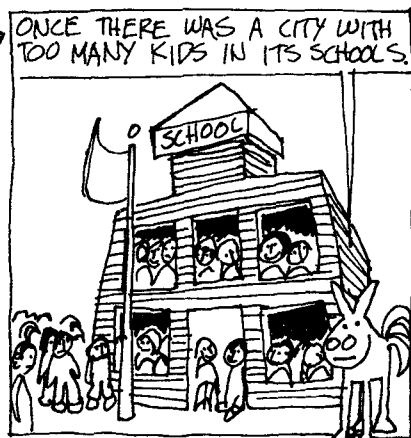
THE JURY in a televised trial of a young defendant accused of murder in Florida rejected his lawyer's plea that the youth had committed the crime because of excessive exposure to TV. The judge in the trial rejected the jury's plea that it be allowed to view itself on the tube. Said the judge: "They said they just want to see what they look like on TV."

THE KU KLUX in Pasadena, Texas, is sponsoring recorded telephone messages — advocating everything from the extermination of gays to the ambush killing of liberal judges.

Callers to the listed number are told that gun controls are part of a communist plot. The recorded voice urges callers to think about "shooting" anyone from the government who comes around to collect guns if control laws are enacted. Other potential targets, the message adds, are school teachers and newspaper people.

The KKK also tells callers it would be "unwise" to shoot an anti-gun judge in the courtroom. "Use your head," it warns, adding that judges are more vulnerable to attack in their homes at night or while on their way home.

A VIRGINIA COURT has sentenced a 27-year old quadriplegic — who is confined to a wheel chair — to 21 years in prison for selling one-third of an ounce of marijuana and five sleeping pills. Sentenced in the case was Robert Moore, who is completely paralyzed from the waist down and who has only 30% use of his arms.



APPLE PIE

A MICHIGAN STATE university professor who uses computers to predict Supreme Court decisions says that the high court will rule in favor of Alan Bakke. It will be a unanimous ruling, says Prof. Harold Spaeth, and Thurgood Marshall will write the decision. Spaeth says, however, that the ruling will be limited in scope and will not be interpreted as jeopardizing most affirmative action programs.

Spaeth and his computer have predicted 60 previous cases by the Supreme Court with 93 percent accuracy.

world-wide analysis of shark attacks for the past 50 years indicates those who survived were usually the ones who flailed back at the sharks, aiming in particular at the gills. Says Miller: "Quite often the shark will leave if the person fights back."

BECAUSE CONSUMERS SEEM TO HAVE a strong preference for elongated rather than round apples, experiments in the use of chemicals to change the shape of apples have been underway. According to a recent release from the US Department of Agriculture, these experiments have been successful and "chemicals to improve the shape of the Red Delicious apple may now be used."

DAN MILLER of the California Department of Fish & Game says the best way to deal with a shark attack is to fight back. Miller says that a

IN HIS ROLLING STONE report on the press and CIA, Carl Bernstein says there was one notable exception to media cooperation with the spooks:

"Hello, sweetheart, get me the CIA...uhh, rewrite!"



the highly conservative US News & World Report. Bernstein says that USN&WR repeatedly turned down requests from the CIA that the magazine prove covers for agents and other services.

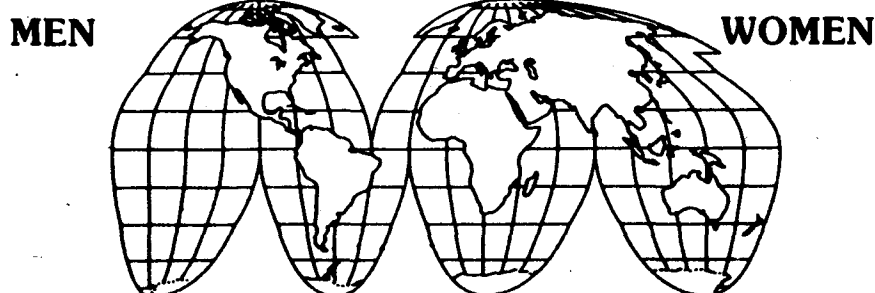
According to Bernstein, David Lawrence, the late founding editor, issued written orders to his sub-editors to fire any US N&WR editor found to be working covertly with the agency.

A RHODE ISLAND CLERGYMAN has his own explanation as to why "Star Wars" has been a box office success: The Reverend Ernest Ryden says it's simply because the movie "subtly borrowed" its entire plot from the New Testament.

Ryden claims that "The Force" is divine guidance. He argues that the aging "Obe-Wan-Kenobie" represents a savior whose disciples become even more powerful after he is killed in battle against the evil knight, Darth Vader.

The new disciple then flies his spaceship against the forces of evil and is successful only because he turns off his computer and trusts the spiritual guidance of "The Force."

The reverend does give the movie some creative credit, however. He concedes that while the Christ figure in the Bible succeeded only in saving the earth, the hero of "Star Wars" saved an entire galaxy. — ZNS



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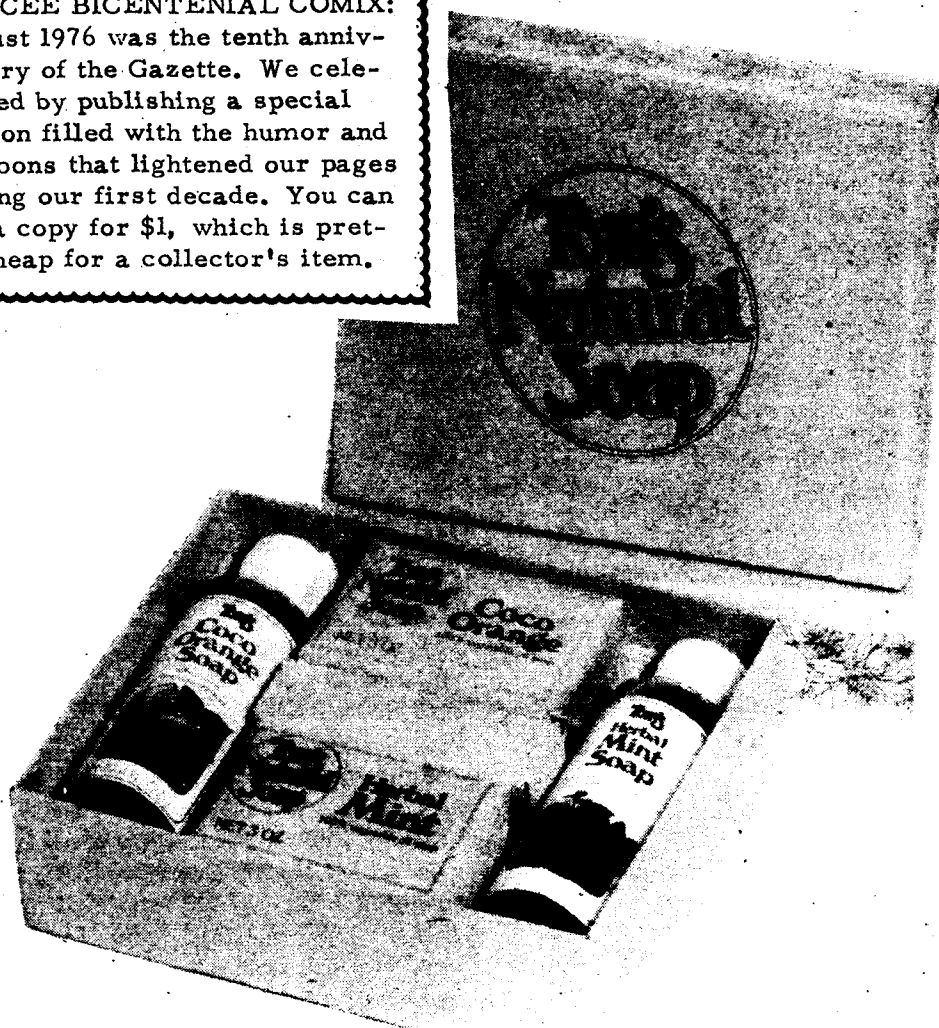
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FIXING CARS

A PEOPLE'S PRIMER

Rick Greenspan, Lowell Turner, Ann Wagner, et. al.

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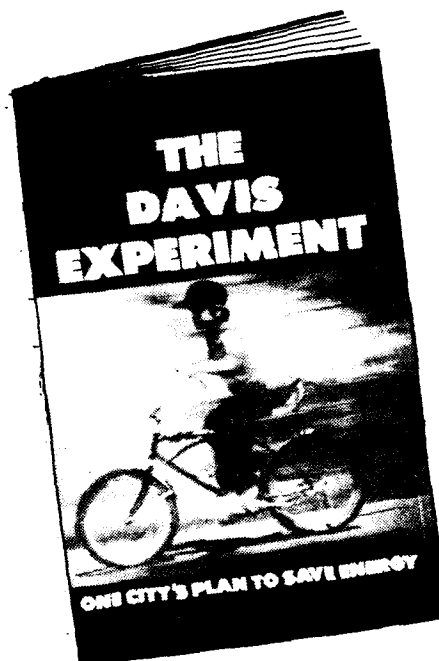
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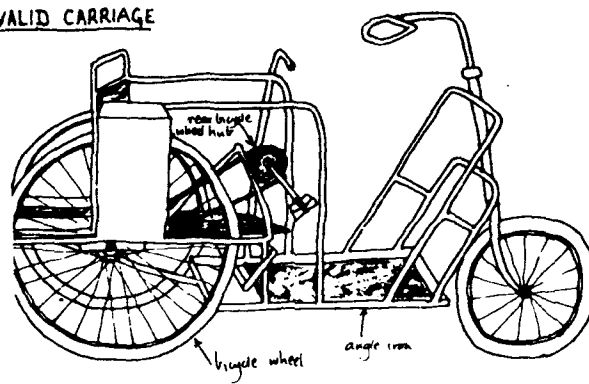
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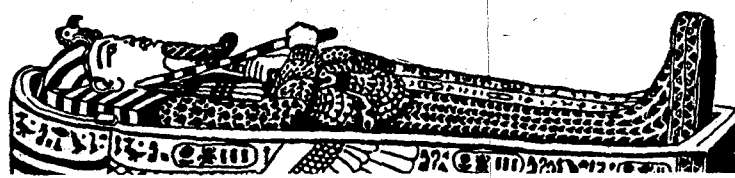
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CITY SCENES

Capital callboys

FOR FORTY DOLLARS AN HOUR, a woman here can rent a man to go dancing with her, escort her to a White House dinner or just stay home and make love to her. In a city where women outnumber men three to one, loneliness sometimes means buying men to be near. And simply picking up the phone and dialing one of several dozen numbers listed in the Washington Star (the Post won't accept them) women in Washington can buy love when they can't find it gratis.

Since April of last year, when DC reinstated its law banning massage by the opposite sex in licensed massage establishments, Washington's sexual entrepreneurs have transformed their operations primarily into outcall and escort services. The activity takes place outside the parlors and so eludes police detection.

"Outcall services have at least doubled since last year when the law went into effect," says Lt. Edwin Casey of the vice squad.

Mark Rogers (not his real name) runs several such services in Washington and he agrees business is booming. "Women make up only five to ten percent of the total outcall volume," Rogers says. "But that translates into 35 to 40 calls from women a week for only one of my businesses."

One of his "Dates and Escorts" numbers hooks up to a red telephone in the middle of a black room decorated with shag rugs and fake leather furniture, inside a rickety frame dwelling close to Silver Spring. A woman adventurous enough to ignore the savage rearing stallion painted on the door can walk inside and browse through portfolios of naked men accompanied by information sheets listing their vital statistics.

The men are handsome, young and willing. "You'd think a man who worked as an escort wouldn't have much feeling for women," says one Robert Redford look-alike. "They say you can't make love to a woman you don't love, but I don't believe it. I don't think I'm an expert at sex, but I've been lucky — I've been trained by some fantastic women."

Because tuxedos need to be drycleaned and driving a fancy car costs money, women may have to pay extra if they want their escorts to accompany them to special occasions. At any rate, if they go out the women must pay all expenses.

While the men contract as escorts, Rogers says, they have sex with the client 95 percent of the time — and this is what they are paid for.

The women come from all walks of life, are as likely married as single, are sexually unsatisfied and probably looking for companionship. They range in age from 30 to 70. "Sometimes we get high school girls who want dates for the prom," Rogers says. "But once they hear the price, they freak out."

The women differ from the men who use outcall services in

their desire to talk; they seem to be looking for intimacy as well as sex. And there are no strings attached beyond the price tag.

Mark Rogers, who also runs escort services for men, nude photography studios and even an obscene phone call service (for \$10, you can give or receive four obscene phone calls, depending on your preference) sees outcalls for women as just another twist on liberation.

"The women seldom come in to town like the men do," he says. "They don't want to be seen near massage parlors. But if you locate near the suburbs, they can drop by on their way to Bloomingdale's or make a phone call from the babysitter's. Women need sex, too." — JEAN CALLAHAN (C)PNS 1977

Songs on the canal

IT'S MIDNIGHT on a warm evening in front of Canal Square in Georgetown. An auburn-haired young man with athletic features and ivory-white teeth leans back against the wall, smiles at the score of on-lookers surrounding him, pushes back his harmonica-holder, and launches into the last verse of his song. Doug Stevens — streetsinging, songwriting, Harvard-educated, Georgetown resident — is back on the street again.

Amid the sounds of applause and the jingle of coins falling into his open guitar case, he gathers up his instruments and belongings, and steps into the crowd. "That's the end of the second set. It's coffee time."

I walk with him down to the Cafe de Paris where, as we both sip Capuccino, I ask why a former legislative assistant in Congress and fundraiser for national political campaigns is singing on the street: "When you worked for Mo Udall, you raised \$10,000 in three weeks. Why are you out here singing for nickels and dimes?" Stevens laughs and paraphrases his patron saint, Bob Dylan: "I never learned to play out on the street and now I have to get used to it."

"Okay, but you don't have to sing on the street. When you lived in Richmond you were the mainstay of the Open Door. In Boston at the Nameless Coffeehouse your shows were always packed. Why don't you play in clubs here?"

"There's no club on earth that can match M Street late at night. One slow smile from a passerby can be worth more than a ton of applause from a crowd that came to get entertained."

"So have you given up clubs for good?"

"Only until the weather turns cold."

"What about the record you were planning to make? Is it still in the works?"

"It sure is," Stevens answers as he puts down his cup and heads out for the third set, "and Canal Square is my practice studio." — PETER BROWN

flotsam & jetsam

HERE I SIT on the front stoop of forty, waiting to go in and wondering what I should do when I get there a few weeks hence. Before you send me your dog-eared copy of "Passages," however, let me warn you: that's not what I'm talking about. In fact, after studying the profitable little boxes Ms. Sheehy created for the upwardly mobile eastern American of the species, I suffered an unchronicled crisis. Once again I didn't fit. I had split tacks with my peers and was drifting unadvised on the lee shore.

The problem was that I didn't feel as bad as I was supposed to. Whatever it is that is happening to me lacks the proper aura of the ominous. I detect restive interests and subtle changes but I've wallowed in doubt and change most of my life and the fourth decade brand seems no more remarkable than the rest. I have intimations of mortality but that is nothing new either. In fact, if helpful people hadn't put up the milestone, I might have missed it all together.

Actually, the worst traumas of my life occurred not last week but in the distant past, when I suffered what might be known today as a pre-life crisis. So difficult did I find the vagaries of growing up that everything which has intruded since as a would-be spectre has seemed a pale imitation of disaster. So dismal was my early perspective that I declared to myself I would consider my life a success if it lasted twenty-one years, a goal later amended to twenty-five and thereafter handled by continuing resolution. Where I obtained this glum view of life expectancy I don't know, but I suppose I yearned so much for the presumed freedom and fun of adulthood that I figured some quirk of puritanical fate would surely deny me it. I surmised the end would come not through some lingering illness, but with an oncoming car swerving across the center line, a fire or other catastrophe in which I would be blameless but dead nonetheless. A nice 1950s conception of life in which the individual could do nothing more than play out a romantic yet futile role in the face of eventual defeat at the hand of mindless forces far too strong to invite attempts at manipulation or control.

Blame it on the then-capitalized Bomb, Eisenhower, my upbringing or going to too many Humphrey Bogart movies. The fact is that I started my adult life with a grandiose vision of looming personal demise.

My friends, I suspect, never guessed it. Once you become a willing partner in a magnificent tragedy, one loses much of the apprehension of the still-to-come that more normal souls possess because of their uncertainty. I knew it was going to end badly and too soon and thus could enjoy ironies of the present better than they and was regarded as a fairly cheerful and carefree fellow. I kept my foreboding to myself and, except for an occasional sleepless night, did not suffer unduly from my grim speculation.

But if I was grandly fatalistic about my ultimate end, I was also intensely uncertain and afraid of the more probable futures — like tomorrow or the next day. Every examination, every event, and every new adventure I stood before as though it were an approaching tornado. My stomach would turn itself inside out at the slightest provocation, I would become faint in the face of the mildest adversity and I dreaded the unfamiliar. To make matters worse, I also

concealed my deep timidity from my contemporaries—with a bravado that only made the truth more uncomfortable to me.

As it turned out, I quickly outlived my expectations and my youthful plagues slowly left me. Mindless forces only got their tentacles on me occasionally, as when the United States Coast Guard declared me a potential security risk at age 23, and forced me through McCarthy-esque procedures to determine whether I was loyal despite my parents' erstwhile membership in several organizations that were retroactively considered suspect by paranoid protectors of the flag. I was no rebel in those days and I pursued my ultimately successful self-justification with vigor and misery.

As life crises go, being labelled an embryonic Benedict Arnold at 23 surely qualifies. At least it did in 1960. Perhaps my subsequent life has been exceedingly dull, but I've never been quite able to match it. Along with my peculiar youthful view of the world, it contributed to a curriculum vitae that makes it difficult for me to look upon the turning of the decades with appropriate apprehension and despair. Once you survive something, your perspective changes. I have found that the succeeding crises of my life have arranged themselves in a carelessly random fashion. There have been good years and bad years, pain caused by my own foolishness and pain caused by others or by accident. While among the pain has been confirmation of my early belief that life tends to end badly and too soon, there has also been the delight of the company of those who challenged that belief by living long and well, and who tended to regard the much vaunted crises of the middle years as part of the luxury of youth.

I have also become a statistic collector. Did you know that the life expectancy of a male in Massachusetts in 1855 was only 38.7 years? So Gail Sheehy thinks times are tough. I've already beaten the odds in Massachusetts of just 122 years ago.

Furthermore, I don't feel like having a crisis. Not a big one, I mean, full of orcs and gollums and other beasties rampaging through my forty-year old brain screaming, "What is the meaning of all this?" Because I don't know the answer now any better than I ever have and if I'm living in a fool's paradise and don't understand the decrepitude that is to befall a few weeks from now, I at least hope for some placidity to make up for the energy, virility and creativity about to depart.

I am just not ready to become a loyal American forty-year-old writhing on the fulcrum of my life. Nor do I think I am alone. A recently reported study of Harvard graduates from the 1940s found that among the most successful, life got better after forty; the earlier years had been too filled with conforming, proving, achieving. The researchers found no mid-life crisis. And what of the forty-year olds who take their retirement from the military to "begin" their lives? Or people who live chronologically indifferent lives in which success and happiness represent accumulations rather than defined points? Or the woman I know who is going to medical school and when told, "But you'll be fifty by the time you're a doctor," replied, "I'll be fifty whether I'm a doctor or not?"

I suspect it is the sprinters who have the worst of it. Having fixed their goal far short of the end, they arrive there winded and unclear where to go next. It's not really their fault that they assumed that if you didn't do it by forty you wouldn't. It was, after all, what they were taught — by an economic system increasingly squeezing out the young and the old and by a social system increasingly tilted towards those who perform best the most noble task of the American: consumption.

William Safire, the columnist, sug-

gested recently, for example, that "old people... ought to retire so that business can be better managed and society economically served." He was speaking of those in their sixties, but too often the shoving begins at forty.

Once past forty, you become a problem to the marketplace: a problem because you wish to stay behind the counter and a problem because you don't spend enough time in front of it.

But if we stretch our imaginations a bit it is possible to conceive of a value system not quite so closely tied to corporate personnel demands or media demographics, in which case reaching forty might mean different things.

I was reading the other night a book by a Chinese writer of the 1930s who noted that a person's 51st birthday was the beginning of a series of decennial celebrations of increasing importance and honor. Why the extra year? Perhaps because to celebrate you should be safely past a danger point while to fear and doubt you need only be approaching it. But there was no mention of crisis or trauma. In China of the 1930s it would be another eleven years before I stepped on the bottom rung of achievement's ladder; here in America of the 1970s I find insinuations that I better prepare myself to fall off.

Unfortunately, in this case, I am not Chinese. I live in a society that seems aging largely in terms of deterioration. Examining the psychological aspects of this is hardly fruitful because we are what we say we are. If it were the collective conclusion of the New York publishing industry that those over forty ought to be placed in age-restricted hospices, treated as invalids and provided special diets, it would be only a matter of time before some young (under-40) liberal senator would propose a National Forties Care Program, college students would riot to prove that they could relate to us, and most of us would truck away without complaint to our subsidized middle-aged wombs.

The physiological evidence is less malleable, but here we tend to pay too much attention to the facts and not enough to their effect. We happily ignore the fact that the number of our brain cells starts diminishing shortly after our teenage years, but become concerned with the slowing, weakening and stiffenings of later years. If we made it through the twenties and thirties with hundreds of thousands of AWOL brain cells, we can probably make it through the last portion of our life with a touch of arthritis. In fact, there is at least the possibility that the whirling dervish of youthful life may be less socially benign than we have been led to believe. If our bodies incline us to seek peace more and power less, is the rest of humanity really the worse for it?

Physiological aging actually can diverge surprisingly from chronological age. One can, with luck and effort, be as much as fifteen or twenty years out of kilter. And the different parts of the body can have different ages. You can have a sixty-year old heart and a forty-five year old elbow or, if you play enough tennis, the other way around.

At best chronological age is only a rough guide. It is, though, a guide and to say that one should ignore its parody does not mean one should ignore its message.

For example, one of the messages I have been receiving of late has concerned my common vices. It is not that I have suddenly become enamored of virtue but rather I find that many of the excesses that once brought me pleasure no longer titillate while their unpleasant consequences have magnified themselves. A hangover is no longer the Croix de Guerre of what James Thurber called the "long night's journey into day" but a brutal reminder of the pain that old habits masquerading as new pleasures can bring.

Another message is the realization that many of the things one did to reach a distant goal were not only tedious and immediately dissatisfying, but less ultimately fruitful than one imagined at the time. There are good reasons for hard work — to survive, to enjoy, to fulfill, but the linear relationship between effort and achievement has been knocked askew by too many examples, especially in this capital city, of how indifferent the world is to it, despite what it says.

This doesn't trouble me particularly. On the contrary, I feel rather freed. As a second career, existentialism may not be such a bad choice.

Then, of course, there is the unavoidable hint that one can not postpone indefinitely the end of it all. It's especially unavoidable now, since I have had the misfortune to reach forty just when everyone has gotten tired of talking about sex. I fear the new fascination with thanatology will expose death, as sex before

it, to the method-mongers, moralizers and merchandisers. It will become one more diversification for public and corporate America, instead of an event in which the very privacy of one's involvement in it heightens its meaning.

I don't expect to become any more sanguine about the prospect than was Mark Twain who wrote late in his life from the Caribbean that he didn't want to die there. He was becoming, he said, more and more particular about where he wanted to die. On the other hand, I don't plan to waste much of my remaining life preparing for its end. And I shall avoid the seminars. Death, from an early age, should be faced when it occurs and not unduly before or after.

Anyhow, I can't spend too much time on the subject because I want to live to be as old as Alice Roosevelt Longworth and still be invited to parties and say dirty words in the Style section of the Washington Post. And I'm not even half-way there.

In truth, for a situation not of my own choosing, being forty could be a lot worse. It's hard to explain without seeming naive, but it is like I was young again and starting out, only without the terror. It might even be better. Because when you're forty, society expects less of you, making it easier to confound it.

So here I am sitting on the front stoop waiting to go in. And what I think I shall do is this. I shall think of it as like a sailboat race. Most races start with a windward leg; you tack back and forth and you hike out and wonder a lot whether you should come about now or later. The sheets cut the circulation in your fingers and your body is taut. Then you reach the windward mark and you slack the sheets for a broad reach to the next flag where you'll turn for the more steadily downwind leg and home. I always liked sailing on a broad reach. You can relax a bit. It's fast, smooth and straight ahead. Maybe that's what I'm doing. Just rounding the windward mark.

— SAM SMITH

**FREE
PARKING**

THE Gazette now offers free classifieds for individuals and organizations. Send in your ad of 50 words or less to the DC Gazette, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009 before the third Tuesday of the month. We reserve the right to shorten ads. Ads will be printed on a space available basis. If you wish you may make up your own ad (please use black ink) 3" wide and 1 1/2" deep.

COMMERCIAL establishments may advertise in this section for 10¢ a word prepaid.

FEMALE PROF. (25) wants to share apt/hse w/ same. Dupont Circle, Upper Conn. Ave. Thru Nov 15 call 667-6171

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL LAWYERS DIVISION luncheon, Wednesday, Nov 16 at the Lawyers Club, National Bar Bldg. Noon. Speaker: Gideon Hausner, former attorney general for the State of Israel. \$6.50. Info: 652-6480 x65

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY RECORDS: Lectures at the National Archives, Nov 7 and 14 at 8 pm. Series: \$3.50, single: \$2. Info: 523-3183.

CRAFT ART: A WASHINGTON EXPOSITION. Renwick Gallery.

COLOR DYNAMICS IN BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS, MOTIVATION, MARKETING AND THE ENVIRONMENT. Lecture, Kennedy Center, Nov. 16, 2 pm. \$10 advance price. \$12 at door. Info: 860-5522.

A THREE DAY festival of new music will take place at Constitution Hall and four other locations, Nov. 25-27.

THE URBAN LEAGUE has dedicated its new headquarters at 3401 14th Street, NW, Info: 365-8200.

VOLUNTEER CLEARINGHOUSE OF DC is looking for tutors, typists, drivers, people to answer hotlines, work in hospitals, act as docents, and work with the elderly, mentally ill, handicapped and children. Info: 333-0455.

RECEIVED AT THE GAZETTE: The new catalog of the Yes! Educational Society (338-7676) and of the Open University of Washington (966-9606)

THE WASHINGTON ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE has moved to 71 Oglethorpe Street, NW (726-2556)

THE SCHOOL OF T'AI CHI CHUAN presents techniques for sle care and preventive health maintenance specifically designed for elderly persons. Programs Nov. 14 and Dec. 12. Info: 333-7212 or 362-7212.

THE COOPERATIVE HOUSING ASSOCIATION, which began in Adams-Morgan, has decided to become a citywide organization. Among other things the CHA is pushing for mortgage-type financing for cooperative housing. Info: David Hunter, 739-3849.

PET-A-PET FARM PARK, 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, Va., will rent you an elephant, llama or lion cub. They also have a portable Petting Zoo and an Anniemi Library available for exhibitions and appearances at schools, day care centers, recreation centers and clubs. Info: 759-3636.

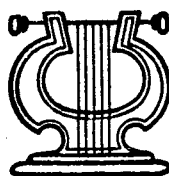
A NEW COALITION has been formed in Capitol East to deal with housing and neighborhood improvement issues. The Capitol East Coalition for Housing and Neighborhood Improvement was created with the assistance of the two ANCs in the area.

The Coalition has signed a contract with the city Department of Housing to provide community organization and other services. It is currently seeking staff, including a director, assistant director and community organizer. For information, call David Freed at 543-3344.

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DC EYE Cont'd

MARIE NAHIKIAN, formerly executive director of AMO, now holds the same job at Common Cause/DC. . . BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE comes out we'll try to find out who John Ray is and why he was the first candidate announced for mayor.

R.J. TURNER, a Washingtonian with considerable experience in real estate and renovation, has published a guide to restoration called "How to Find a House to Renovate in Washington, D.C." For practical advice, hints and as a guide to avoid pitfalls it should prove valuable. Unfortunately, however, restoration is not all finishes and furnaces. It also involves people — and there are many who have been badly hurt by the restoration movement. Turner does not deal with the social issues involved in renovation. This may be outside the scope of the book, but should not be outside the scope of those who read it. \$4.95 from Turner Publishing Inc., PO Box 2893, DC 20013.

HOW indiscreet of developer John Portman to announce plans to build a 1000-room hotel on the block now occupied by the National Press Building — before the convention center was approved. It suggests to some that you don't need civic palaces to attract new hotels. . . . OUR FRIENDS AT QUADRANGLE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (they're the fiscal siblings of Gladstone Associates, the "independent" consultants on the Astroduct), have their eyes on another piece of the Pa. Ave. mud puddle. Among their plans is the destruction of Loew's Palace, to be replaced by offices and stores. According to the Pa Ave Commission this will "bring life and vitality 24 hours a day" to the area. No, don't ask how. Just have faith.

WALTER FAUNTROY has so far refused to change the wording of his constitutional amendment to make sure it doesn't act as a block to statehood. As it stands right now, some lawyers think the representation amendment would make it difficult to obtain statehood. Fauntroy may turn out to be full home rule's most effective foe.